

# ARMY



# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

## JOURNAL.

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FORCES

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### THE GATLING GUN.

By CAPTAIN E. ROGERS.

(From "Colburn's United Service Magazine.")

Concluded.

Besides the inch-calibre gun there is another Gatling that will not as yet be added to our armament, namely, one of small-bore, say .45, and furnished also with ten barrels, but which weighs only 125 lbs. It is designed to be carried on the back of an animal, or it can be fired from a tripod, which enables it to sweep an entire circle, at the rate of three hundred shots per minute.

In colonial warfare such a gun would, we contend, have an inestimable moral effect, namely, the effect of anything strange or startling upon untutored minds, in the same degree as the knowledge of a great power or even the suspicion of its presence exercises its influence more or less upon the strongest nerves. Is there no "moral effect" in a torpedo, an iron-clad, even a red-coat? and if there be, which there is unquestionably, why not in a machine gun of such fearful effectiveness, representing as it does as many hundred rifles as it takes men to work it.

The Gatlings with which, however, we are more immediately concerned, are those about to be issued to the troops.

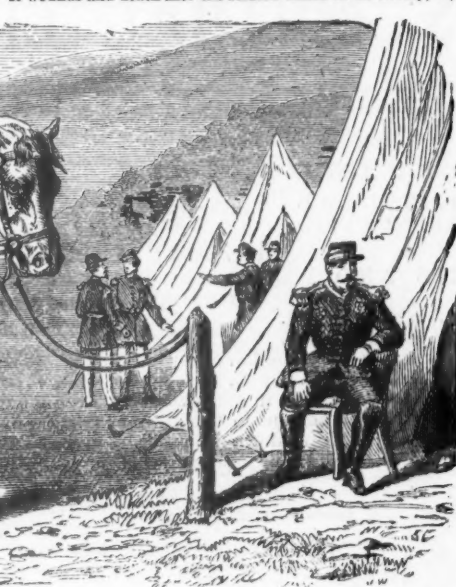
There is a rumor, it is to be hoped without foundation, that the authorities have raised some objection to their use on field service, and that they will be condemned to take the place of light field-guns for service on board ship. We presume the smaller, or .45-inch guns, are only alluded to in this suggestion, although no doubt they would under such circumstances be extremely useful, as was admitted by Captain Beamish, R. N., at Colonel Fletcher's lecture.

But as a light field-piece the Gatling of .45 calibre will or ought to have another destination; we mean with regard to regiments of cavalry and infantry, whom we maintain should each be furnished with a gun or two. In the former the dismounted men would work it, and therefore all should be acquainted with its drill. In the latter ten men per company should be thoroughly instructed in its manipulation, as well as in loading the cartridge cases afresh in the field. The senior subaltern of the company to which the gun may chance to be temporarily attached should command the party, and, under general directions from his captain, the adjutant, or brigade major, should take up the most suitable positions; for the Gatling, of all guns, should move untrammelled.

As observed in our previous article on "Mitrailleuses," a campaign of the present day is a "war of serpents, of sudden surprises, of rapid movements and tortuous manoeuvres so as to avoid the destructive effects of a concentrated fire, and such tactics must be met by more extended lines of defence." And in this connection it may not be considered irrelevant to quote from a recent critique\* on a work by Field-Marshal William, Duke of Wurtemberg, descriptive of the new system of attack improvised by the Germans in the late war:

"At Gravelotte, the storming of St. Privat by the Guards was the nearest approach to attack in deep columns that occurred during the late war, and it failed. Eighty-four guns had cannonaded the French position with great effect at from more than 2,000 to 1,600 yards. Three brigades of the Guards then marched to the attack in two lines of columns. The front of attack was about 2,000 paces, so there were about ten men to every pace of frontage. In about ten minutes 6,000 men fell—

three men to every pace of frontage under the murderous fire of mitrailleuses and chassapots. Heroes as they were, the Guards had to retire without reaching the position or even nearly approaching it. The commander of the Guards called back his men only in time to save them from total destruction. After Gravelotte, the attack in line of columns over open ground was marked out as an impossibility, and a useless loss of men, and definitely rejected." Consequently the Duke urges the necessity for future assaults to be delivered under cover of sustained rifle volleys, or, as it has been aptly rendered by his English translator (Captain Robinson), *offensive fire-action*. It would be under such circumstances (although we are aware that in this we differ from the expressed opinions of so practical a soldier as Colonel Fletcher) that the Gatling would go well to the front, carrying with it wounds and death into the serried ranks of an enemy, or, if the latter be also an extended formation, then from the peculiar automatic traversing apparatus previously described, the storm of bullets can be made to sweep along the front as methodically and as continuously as jets of water from the hose of a fire-engine. Then again there is an incalculable advantage in this fact, that whereas in case of a forward rush under musketry fire there must be wild waste of ammunition, arising out of sheer excitement, confusion, attention to orders, smoke, and what not, the advance with the machine-gun can be conducted calmly and with a precision of fire unflinched by tent nerves or hasty aim; for, once laid in the right direction, and the Gatling will execute its work efficiently. The manner in which we are told the French used their chassapots is a close commentary on our remarks.



"Taught to trust in their weapons to keep the enemy at a distance, they neglected accuracy of aim. As a rule, the infantry soldiers elevated the muzzles of their rifles at high angles, seldom even putting the butts against their shoulders. Though the firing was wild, it had the advantage of enabling the men to keep well under cover, and caused the Germans to feel the storm of bullets at distances of 1,200 to 1,800 paces. But the result was that the attacking infantry were encouraged to press near so as to be out of the dangerous zone of fire, and ammunition was wasted."

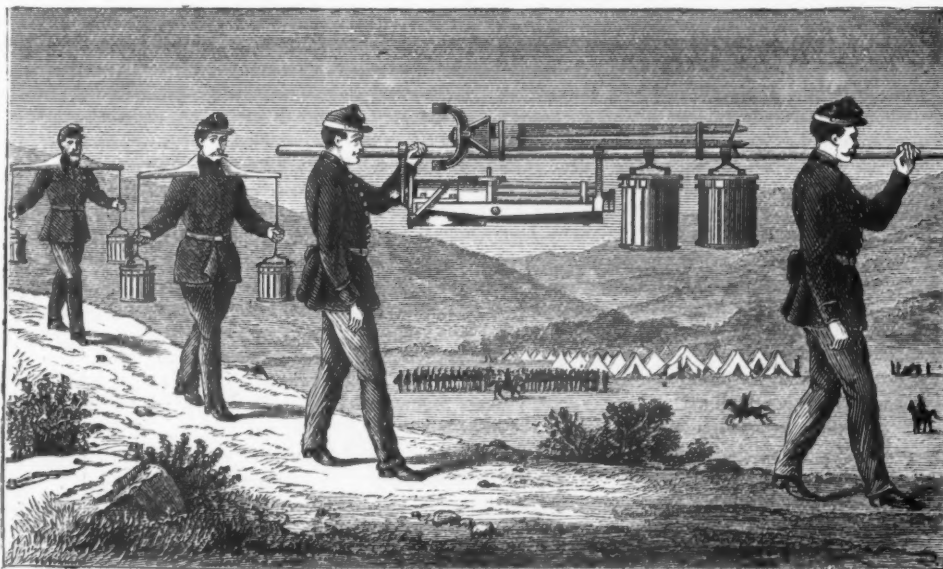
This was, we admit, adverted to at Colonel Fletcher's lecture by Captain Brackenbury, R. A., who witnessed it in practice as regards the ammunition of Mitrailleuses; but, as has also been pointed out, Frenchmen are too hasty ever to make good artillerymen.

Inseparably connected with the employment of Gatlings in the field must ever be regarded the conjoint use of the spade. In very few moments a trench, such as we have shown in our illustration, can be dug in rear of each wheel to run the gun into for temporary safety, and when time permits, the excavated soil may of course be utilized in throwing up a parapet in front as well. Then, too, a few fascines can readily be arranged so as to mask the gun; for an accurate and well-sustained fire from an unexpected quarter will often turn the fate of an engagement. Again, the defence of a village or building, as suggested by Captain Brackenbury, an aperture can be readily made in the walls, through which to thrust the muzzles of the Gatling, and thus enable it to be fired from a safe position. So much for field-work.

And now let us briefly direct attention to another phase of the utility and efficiency of these guns when used on board a ship-of-war. In the early period of its existence the Gatling Gun was reported on by a committee of American naval officers, and after due examination and experiment they thus recorded their opinions: "As an auxiliary arm for special service, to be used from top-gallant, forecastle, poop-deck, and tops of vessels of war, and in boat operation against an enemy, either in passing open land works or clearing breaches, and other proposed places for landing from boats, if opposing infantry and cavalry, it has no known superior."

But since then the mechanism, rifling and ammunition of the gun referred to have been greatly improved—what, in fact, could be more suitable in every respect for boat-service in the shallow rivers and creeks of such places as the African coast and the nooks we possess on the seaboard of America, than the employment of the light Gatling, capable of being fired with frightful effectiveness and as useful in attack as defence.

In the opinion of Captain Beamish, R. N., the howitzer or other field-pieces ought not to be entirely superseded, but in all boat operations the peculiarities of the Gatling would render it an invaluable auxiliary. The absence of recoil, for instance, would permit of the small Gatling being shipped in boats which could not otherwise carry a gun of any sort, while in those capable of mounting a field-piece, a Gatling of the heavier calibre should invariably be shipped as a supplementary arm, to assist in clearing the front or covering of a landing. There are, in fine, many and evident advantages to the credit of the Mitrailleur, and more will be ascertained by experience, for as yet it is a comparatively unknown and untried weapon. To England may fall the honor and glory of perfecting it, and of developing its principle to the utmost, notwithstanding the prejudices which naturally exist against any arm likely to damp the ardor of troops or to extinguish their individual pluck. But whatever fate may lie in store for the machine-gun, let us hope that it will not (as some artillery officers would seem to wish) be relegated to the age of M. Remy to be employed solely, "pour des fendre des breches et des entranchemens."



\*The Times, January 17.



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[Official.]

SURGEON-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3, 1865.

Dr. E. P. Banning, New York.

Sir: I am instructed to acknowledge receipt of  
your communication of the 26th ult., and to state  
that the Medical Purveyor of New York will be di-  
rected to supply your Trusses on special requisition.  
By order of the Surgeon-General.Respectfully, your obedient servant,  
W. C. SPENCER, Asst-Surgeon U. S. A.How to Measure for BANNING'S BRACE TRUSS:  
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## THE ARMY.

### WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S  
OFFICE, WASHINGTON, April 24, 1872.

#### General Orders No. 19.

General Orders No. 13, Adjutant-General's Office, March 9, 1869, are hereby so amended as to provide that in the issue of coats of the Pacific slope the following scale of equivalents shall be used, the standard being merchantable oak wood, delivered, viz:

One cord of the standard oak wood equals,  
Two thousand five hundred pounds Rocky Mountain brown coal, Wahsatch range;  
Two thousand six hundred pounds Mount Diablo, California, and Coos Bay, Oregon, brown coal;  
Two thousand four hundred pounds Seattle, Washington Territory, brown coal;  
Two thousand two hundred pounds Bellingham Bay, Washington Territory, brown coal; and  
One thousand eight hundred pounds Nanaimo, Vancouver's Island, British Columbia, brown coal.  
By order of the Secretary of War.  
E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

#### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending April 29, 1872.

Tuesday, April 23.

Leave of absence is hereby granted the following officers: First Lieutenant Thomas D. Maurice, Second Artillery, for three months, on surgeon's certificate of disability; First Lieutenant John B. Eaton, Third Artillery, for four months; Second Lieutenant Clinton H. Tebbetts, Fourth Cavalry, from June 1 to September 1, 1872.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Clinton H. Tebbetts, Fourth Cavalry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect September 1, 1872.

So much of Special Orders No. 478, December 20, 1871, from this office, as accepts the resignation of First Lieutenant George Atcheson, Seventh Infantry, to take effect June 30, 1872, is hereby so amended as to accept his resignation to take effect March 1, 1872.

Paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 88, April 13, 1872, from this office, transferring Captain Asa P. Blunt, assistant quartermaster, to the Department of the South, is hereby revoked.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfers in the First Artillery are hereby announced: Captain William M. Graham, from Light Battery K to Battery I; Captain Alanson M. Randol, from Battery I to Light Battery K.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon A. B. Campbell is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Dakota, and will report in person to the Surgeon-General.

Hospital Steward Albert C. Beals, U. S. Army, now in this city, will report in person to the commanding general Department of the South for assignment to duty.  
Discharged.—Private William N. Chapman, general service U. S. Army, West Point; Private Wilmeth S. Jones, Battery K, Fifth Artillery.

Musician Charles H. Salinas, band of Twelfth Infantry, now at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, will report in person without delay to the commanding officer of his command for duty. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Chief Trumpeter George A. Brenner, Third Cavalry, now with his command, is hereby transferred to the Tenth Cavalry, as chief musician, which command he will proceed to join. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Leave of absence for six months on surgeon's certificate of disability is hereby granted First Lieutenant Alfred Fredberg, Nineteenth Infantry.

Wednesday, April 24.

Sergeant James W. Bates and Private James Welch, Battery I, First Artillery, having completed the duty assigned them in Special Orders No. 27, April 15, 1872, from headquarters Fort Wood, New York Harbor, will return to their station at Fort Wood with permission to delay five days en route. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

On the recommendation of the Judge-Advocate-General, Major H. B. Burnham, judge-advocate, will report in person to the commanding general Department of Texas for temporary duty.

Thursday, April 25.

Ordnance Sergeant Edward O'Brien, U. S. Army, now at Charleston, S. C., will report in person to the commanding officer Fort Barrancas, Fla., for duty at Fort Pickens, Pensacola Harbor. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Discharged.—Sergeant Charles E. Ingram, General Service U. S. Army, at Fort Whipple, Va.; Private Charles L. White, Company L, Seventh Cavalry.

The commanding general Department of Texas will

grant a furlough for four months, with permission to go beyond sea, to Sergeant John Hickey, Company K, Tenth Infantry, now with his command.

Friday, April 26.

Discharged.—Hospital Stewards Frank P. Hughes, and J. H. Pine, (April 27), now on duty in the Surgeon-General's office.

Upon receipt of this order, Superintendent Charles Shambaugh (recently appointed) will proceed to Gettysburg, Pa., and assume charge of the National Cemetery at that place. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Saturday April 27.

So much of Paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 65, March 18, 1872, from this office, as relates to Second Lieutenant Loyall Farragut, Fifth Artillery, and Second Lieutenant David S. Denison, Fifth Artillery, is hereby revoked and the following substituted:

The following transfers are made of officers of the Fifth Artillery, under the provisions of paragraph 6, General Orders No. 90, November 13, 1867, from this office, establishing the Artillery School at Fort Monroe, Va. The officer of the new detail will report for duty at Fort Monroe, May 1, 1872, when the officer to be relieved will be ordered to join his new battery:

Second Lieutenant William P. Duvall, from Battery B to Battery C, vice Second Lieutenant David S. Denison, from Battery C to Battery B, to be relieved.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Loyall Farragut, Fifth Artillery, has been accepted by the President, to take effect April 25, 1872.

Monday, April 29.

As soon as existing requisitions have been filled, the superintendent General Recruiting Service will cause to be prepared and forwarded from Newport Barracks, Kentucky, eighty recruits to Omaha, Nebraska, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to the Fourteenth Infantry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Leave of absence for four months is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Levi F. Burnett, Seventh Infantry.

On his own application, approved by the regimental commander, Second Lieutenant Reid T. Stewart, Fifth Cavalry, is hereby transferred from Company M to Company G of that regiment, and will join his proper station at his own expense.

Discharged.—First Class Private Waldemar C. Holmstrom, Ordnance Detachment U. S. Army, now at Fort Union Arsenal, New Mexico; Second Class Private James Higgins, Ordnance Detachment U. S. Army, now at Detroit Arsenal, Michigan; Unattached Private John England, Fourth Cavalry; Private Edward Sherman, Company D, Second Infantry, now at Fort Monroe, Virginia, is hereby transferred to Battery G, First Artillery, stationed at that post.

The superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service will prepare and forward, under proper charge, one hundred recruits to Omaha, Nebraska, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to the Second Cavalry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

The Board of Officers convened by paragraph 6, Special Orders No. 260, July 3, 1871, from this office, for the purpose of preparing "a system of general regulations for the administration of the affairs of the Army," and now in session in this city, will adjourn to meet in New York city on Thursday the 2d proximo, in order to prepare the subject of uniform.

So much of Special Orders No. 74, March 28, 1872, from this office, as directs Lieutenant-Colonel James A. Ekin, deputy quartermaster-general, to assume charge of the depot at Jeffersonville, Indiana, is hereby revoked, and the telegraphic order of the 26th instant, from this office, directing him to report at once to the commanding general Department of the South for duty as chief quartermaster of that department is hereby confirmed.

Hospital Steward J. H. Pine, U. S. Army, now on duty in the Surgeon-General's Office, will be honorably discharged the service of the United States, to date May 1, 1872.

#### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company B, Ninth Cavalry, from Fort Duncan, Tex., to Ringgold Barracks, Tex., April 13.

Company D, Twenty-second Infantry, from Whetstone Agency, D. T., to Fort Randall, D. T., April 2.

The post of Whetstone Agency, D. T., was discontinued April 30.

In the case of Private Henry Doherty, U. S. Military Academy Detachment of Cavalry, sentenced by a General Court-martial, which convened at West Point, New York, January 2, 1872, "To forfeit to the United States all pay and allowances due or to become due to him, except the just dues of his laundress, and to be confined at hard labor in charge of the guard for six months, and to wear during that time a 24-pound shot attached to his left leg by a chain six feet long, and at the end of that time to be indelibly marked on the left hip with the letter D, and to be drummed out of the service," of which sentence "the indelible marking of the prisoner" was remitted, (General Court-martial Orders No. 2, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, February 2, 1872,) the unexecuted portion of the sentence is remitted by General Court-martial Orders No. 8, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, April 22, 1872,

and the prisoner will be released from confinement and discharged from the service of the United States.

#### QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Brigadier-General M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster General.

Representative Goodrich has introduced a bill in the House authorizing the accounting officers of the Treasury to credit Colin B. Ferguson, deceased, late captain and assistant quartermaster of the United States Army, with the sum of \$38,179.02, being the amount of certain vouchers paid by him, which have been lost while in the possession of the War Department.

#### CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Brigadier-General A. A. Humphreys, Chief of Engineers.

Governor Hoffman, of New York, has sent a communication to the Legislature from the Secretary of War, announcing that the President had, in accordance with the request of the Legislature, appointed a commission to examine and revise the exterior pier and bulkhead lines of the harbor of New York on the Brooklyn side—the commission to consist of the Chief of Engineers of the Army, the superintendent of the Coast Survey, and Lieutenant-Colonel Newton, of the Engineer Corps. The Secretary of War further states in his communication that the War Department has no appropriation on which the commission can draw for their expenses, and that the State of New York must provide therefor. The communication was referred to the committee of Ways and Means, which will make provision for the necessary expenses.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Brigadier-General A. H. Terry, Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

A PARTISAN despatch from Spartanburg, S. C., April 17, 1872, announces that "Minos Paris, a poor, honest fisherman, was followed by United States troops, shot and instantly killed, on Broad river, while attempting to escape. The soldiers say they ordered him to stop."

In General Orders, No. 27, General Terry says: It has become the painful duty of the brigadier-general commanding to announce to the troops of his command the death of Brevet Brigadier-General John C. McFerran, lieutenant-colonel and deputy quartermaster-general in the Army, and chief quartermaster of this department. General McFerran entered the Army from the Military Academy in 1843, and for nearly thirty consecutive years rendered faithful and honorable service to his country. As an officer he was distinguished for his able and conscientious discharge of every duty; as a man, for stainless honor and exalted worth. Dying, he leaves behind him a reputation for purity and integrity which reflects honor upon the service in which he was an officer, and upon the profession of arms. At all military posts in this department the flag will be set at half-mast on the day after the receipt of this order, and the usual badges of mourning will be worn for thirty days.

The Quartermaster's Department has met with a great loss in the sudden death, on April 25, of Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. McFerran, brevet major-general U. S. Army, who was serving in the capacity of deputy quartermaster-general Department of the South. He was born in Kentucky, entered the Military Academy in 1838, and, after graduating, served with the Third Infantry. During the Mexican War he was with the Seventh Infantry, and engaged at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. After that war he was transferred back to his old regiment, and in 1856 entered the Quartermaster's Department of the Army, in which he has served ever since. During the Rebellion he was in New Mexico and in Washington; received his brevet in 1865, and his lieutenant-colonelcy in 1866. Since then he has had charge of the Eighth Division of the Quartermaster's Department. He died suddenly at his headquarters, but we have no information of the cause of his decease.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

Sixteenth Infantry.—Captain Thomas E. Rose, April 21 was ordered on temporary duty to Saltillo, Miss., under special instructions from department headquarters. Second Lieutenant I. O. Shelby, April 20 was ordered to Jackson, Miss., the station of his company, to report to the commanding officer for duty. In addition to his other duties he will retain charge of the National Cemeteries at Vicksburg and Natchez, Miss., and inspect them once every month.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan: Chicago, Ill.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

The leaves of absence for seven days granted in S. O. headquarters Fort Abercrombie, Dakota Territory, to Lieutenant-Colonel L. C. Hunt and Chaplain John Weart, U. S. Army, was extended five days April 24.

CAPTAIN Henry Inman, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, has been placed in arrest and ordered to report in person, on or before May 1, to the judge-advocate of the General Court-martial ordered to convene at St. Paul, Minn., on that date for his trial.

A GENERAL Court-martial met at St. Paul, Minn., May 1, for the trial of Captain Henry Inman, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army. Detail for the court: Colonel George Sykes, Twentieth Infantry; Surgeon Anthony Heger, U. S. Army; Major J. E. Yard, Twentieth Infantry; Captains J. H. Gilman, commissary



of subsistence, U. S. Army; J. C. Bates, Twentieth Infantry; John Hartley, Twenty-second Infantry; William Fletcher, Twentieth Infantry; Malcolm McArthur, Seventeenth Infantry; John N. Coe, Twentieth Infantry; First Lieutenant T. H. Fisher, Twenty-second Infantry. Major G. N. Lieber, U. S. Army, judge-advocate.

**Fort Buford, D. T.**—Forty thousand dollars of the sum authorized by the War Department for the construction of Fort Buford, Dakota Territory, has been directed to be used and applied by the chief quartermaster of the Department in the construction of barracks and quarters for troops at the Northern Pacific Railroad crossing of the Missouri river. Should any balance remain after the construction in question, it will be applied in accordance with the instructions of the Hon. Secretary of War, to the required repairs upon the present barracks at Fort Rice, Dakota Territory. The transfer of funds is made on account of the reduction in the contemplated garrison at Fort Buford, upon the authority of the Lieutenant-General commanding Military Division of the Missouri.

**Twentieth Infantry.**—Major J. E. Yard, April 23 was relieved from duty at Fort Totten, Dakota Territory, to take effect on the 30th inst. After he shall have completed the duty for which he was detailed by S. O. No. 68, c. s., from Department headquarters, he will proceed to and take command of Fort Wadsworth, Dakota Territory.

**Seventh Infantry.**—Before a General Court-martial which convened at Fort Shaw, M. T., and of which Colonel John Gibbon, Seventh Infantry, is president, Sergeant Denis Murphy, Company E, Seventh Infantry, was found guilty of "violation of the 45th Article of War," having been found so much under the influence of intoxicating liquor at the time he was inspected at guard mounting as to be unable to perform his duties properly, and was sentenced "to be confined within the limits of the garrison where his company may be serving for the period of five months." Major-General Hancock, in commenting on this case, says:

"By the original sentence in this case the prisoner was 'to be confined at hard labor, in charge of the guard, for the period of four months.' The proceedings were returned to the court for a reconsideration of the sentence, with substantially the following remarks:

"It seems to be clearly in violation of the usages of the service that a non-commissioned officer should undergo corporal (corporal) punishment of this character, without being previously reduced to the ranks, and it has been customary for courts-martial to act in conformity to this principle. The sentence in this case may be based upon the opinion that the 45th Article of War, in prescribing corporal punishment, excludes reduction to the ranks. If so, this opinion is not sustained. Attention is, in this connection, invited to the decision of the Judge-Advocate-General, communicated by him in a letter dated January 13, 1870, to the Judge-Advocate Department of Louisiana, and promulgated in General Orders from these headquarters (reprinted in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL). Speaking of the custom referred to, as affecting punishment under the 45th Article of War, he says:

"Because of the embarrassment which may be found in selecting an appropriate corporal punishment for a non-commissioned officer, in view of the usage alluded to, I am of opinion that a sentence of reduction to the ranks may be accepted as a legal punishment under the Article in question. Some punishment of this nature (viz., confinement under charge of the post guard and carrying a log), in addition to the reduction, would certainly render to sentence more strictly conformable to the requirements of this Article."

"The court, upon a reconsideration, substituted the sentence as it appears in its appropriate place, and gave expression to the following opinion:

"The court is of opinion that as its members are sworn to 'administer justice according to the provisions of an act establishing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States,' and that as the 45th Article of that act declares that a non-commissioned officer drunk on his guard 'shall suffer such corporal punishment as shall be inflicted by the sentence of a court-martial,' it has no right to impose any punishment which is not corporal. That embarrassments may, and do arise in the administration of justice under this Article is a good reason why the law should be changed. It is, in the opinion of the court, none why the law should be violated."

"In remarking upon this opinion, it is taken for granted that the existence in our service of the fundamental principle, which conflicts with the imposition of ignominious punishment upon a non-commissioned officer as such, is now universally conceded. In view of this principle doubts have arisen as to the proper interpretation of the Article referred to, but so far as is known, these doubts have never given rise to any decision differing from that of the high authority already quoted, and it is by the light of such precedents and authorities as we may have that the statute should be interpreted. Moreover, 'it is the duty of courts so to construe statutes as to meet the mischief and to advance the remedy, and not to violate fundamental principles.' (Potter's Dwarrior on Statutes and Constitutions, page 144.) And if the literal expressions of the law would lead to absurd, unjust, or inconvenient consequences, such a construction should be given as to avoid such consequences, if from the whole purview of the law, and giving effect to the words used, it may be fairly done. For, that the consequences are to be considered in expounding law when the intent is doubtful is a principle not to be controverted. (U. S. v. Fisher et al., 2 Cranch, 358.)

"Accordingly it has been held that the power to impose corporal punishment includes the power to reduce to that condition in which alone the designated punishment can, without violating a fundamental principle, be enforced. This interpretation the Major-General commanding regards as the only correct one, and his action as reviewing officer is therefore governed by it.

"The court having quoted one provision of the oath required of each member, it seems in place here to direct attention to another, which makes 'the customs of war in like cases' a standard by which, when doubts arise, justice is to be administered.

"The proceedings and findings are approved. The sentence, as finally agreed upon, although in the opinion of the commanding general not adequate to the offence, is confirmed, and will be carried into execution."

"The General Court-martial which convened at Fort Shaw, M. T., by virtue of S. O. No. 165, series of 1871, from these headquarters, and of which Colonel John

Gibbon, Seventh Infantry, is president, is hereby dissolved."

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

*Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.*

**Payment of Troops.**—Major R. A. Kinzie, paymaster U. S. Army, April 23 was ordered to pay the troops stationed at Chicago and at the Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois, to April 30, 1872; Major W. A. Rucker, paymaster U. S. Army, the troops stationed at the Cavalry Depot, St. Louis, Mo., and at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., to April 30, 1872; Major Nicholas Vedder, paymaster U. S. Army, the troops stationed at Leavenworth Arsenal and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to April 30, 1872. Major E. H. Brooke, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered from Leavenworth City to Forts Riley, Harker, Hays, and Wallace, Kansas, Forts Lyons and Reynolds, C. T., and the stations of the Kansas Pacific Railroad, to Denver City, C. T., for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to April 30, 1872; Major I. O. Dewey, paymaster U. S. Army, from Leavenworth City, Kansas, to the stations of the troops serving in South-eastern Kansas, to Fort Gibson, Indian Territory, and the terminus of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to April 30, 1872; Major David Taylor, paymaster U. S. Army, from Leavenworth City, Kansas, to Forts Larned and Dodge, Kansas, and Camp Supply, Indian Territory, for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to April 30, 1872. Major J. B. M. Potter, paymaster U. S. Army, will pay the troops stationed at Santa Fé, New Mexico, Forts Garland, Colorado Territory, and Union, New Mexico, to April 30, 1872. Major A. B. Carey, paymaster U. S. Army, has proceeded from Santa Fé, N. M., to Forts Craig, McRae, Selden, Cummings, and Bayard, New Mexico, for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to April 30, 1872; Major Frank Bridgman, paymaster U. S. Army, from Santa Fé, N. M., to Forts Wingate and Stanton, New Mexico, for the purpose of paying the troops stationed at those points to April 30, 1872, making his first payment as soon after the 1st proximo as possible.

**Sixth Infantry.**—Paragraph 6, S. O. No. 64, c. s., from Department Headquarters, is amended to read that Acting Assistant Surgeon J. M. Laing, U. S. Army, will proceed, without delay, to Fort Hays, Kansas, reporting upon arrival to the commanding officer Sixth U. S. Infantry, for duty with that regiment.

To carry out the provisions of S. O. No. 31, c. s., from Division Headquarters, the Sixth U. S. Infantry will be concentrated at Fort Hays, Kansas, by May 10, 1872, according to the following instructions:

"The two companies of the Third Infantry now at Fort Larned, Kansas, and two of the companies of the same regiment at Fort Lyon, Colorado Territory, to be designated by the post commander, will march, without delay, by the valley of the Arkansas river, to Fort Dodge, Kansas. On the arrival of the two companies from Fort Larned, Captain Moore's company (A) will take post at Fort Dodge, relieving the two companies of the Sixth Infantry at that post, which two companies will proceed, without delay, to Fort Hays, and report to Colonel W. B. Hazen, Sixth U. S. Infantry. As soon as the two companies of the Third Infantry from Fort Lyon reach Fort Dodge, they will join with the other company from Fort Larned, and, under the command of the senior officer, the three companies of the Third Infantry will march forthwith to Camp Supply, Indian Territory, and take post, relieving the four companies of the Sixth Infantry now there, which four companies will march without the least delay to Fort Hays, and report to the regimental commander. The three companies of the Fifth Infantry at Fort Harker, Kansas, will proceed, without delay, to and take post at Fort Larned, relieving the company of the Sixth Infantry now there, which company will march at once to Fort Hays and report to the regimental commander.

"All these movements must, if possible, be completed by the 10th of May, 1872. In any event the six companies of the Sixth Infantry stationed north of the Arkansas river must be concentrated and be ready for shipment, by rail, at Fort Hays, by May 10. As soon as these six companies are at Fort Hays, they, with the regimental headquarters, under the command of the colonel of the regiment, will proceed by rail to Sioux City, Iowa, and report, by letter, to the commanding general Department of Dakota.

"As soon as the last four companies of the Sixth Infantry have reached Fort Hays, they will, in like manner, proceed to Sioux City, under the command of the major of the regiment."

The major of the Sixth Infantry, now at Fort Larned, Kansas, was ordered to Fort Hays, Kansas, and to report to Colonel Hazen, when the company of his regiment at Fort Larned leaves that post; the Medical Director of the Department was ordered to detail the proper medical officers to report for duty with the Sixth Infantry, having in mind the fact that Forts Harker and Reynolds will be discontinued.

First Lieutenant C. G. Penney April 24 was relieved from duty as member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Hays, Kansas, by S. O. No. 62, c. s., from Department Headquarters.

**Eighth Cavalry.**—Leave of absence for thirty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was granted First Lieutenant John Lafferty April 24.

**Third Infantry.**—As soon as Fort Hays is evacuated by the companies of the Sixth Infantry, Colonel De L. Floyd-Jones, Third Infantry, will proceed to that post with the regimental headquarters and two of the companies of the Third Infantry now at Fort Wallace, and there take post and establish the headquarters of his regiment. The company of the Third Infantry now at Fort Reynolds will proceed to Fort Lyon and take post. Small detachments will be left at Forts Harker and Reynolds for the present to take care of the public property and stores at those posts.

**Seventh Cavalry.**—Captain C. S. Halsey, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, aide-de-camp, April 23 was ordered to Momepce,

Kankakee county, Illinois, on business connected with Department Headquarters. On completion of this duty, to rejoin his station.

**Sixth Cavalry.**—Acting Assistant Surgeon T. B. Chase, U. S. Army, April 23 was directed to turn over to the medical officer at Fort Lyon, Colorado Territory, the medical and hospital supplies now at Fort Reynolds, Colorado Territory, after which he is to proceed to the summer camp of the Sixth U. S. Cavalry, to be established near Fort Hays, Kansas, reporting, upon arrival, to the commanding officer Sixth U. S. Cavalry, for duty with that regiment.

Assistant Surgeon L. Y. Loring, U. S. Army, will be relieved from duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in time to enable him to report in person, by May 10, to the commanding officer Sixth U. S. Cavalry, at the summer camp of the regiment, to be formed near Fort Hays, Kansas. A. A. Surgeon M. M. Shearer, U. S. Army, April 19 was relieved from duty at Fort Wallace, Kansas, and ordered to Fort Riley, Kansas, reporting upon arrival to the commanding officer Sixth U. S. Cavalry for field duty with that regiment. A. A. Surgeon J. M. Laing, U. S. Army, at the same time was ordered to be relieved from duty at Fort Dodge, Kansas, in time to report in person, by May 10, to the commanding officer Sixth U. S. Cavalry, at the summer camp of the regiment, to be formed near Fort Hays, Kansas.

**Fifteenth Infantry.**—Upon the arrival at Kit Carson, Colorado Territory, of the detachment of one hundred recruits for the Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, ordered to be sent from Newport Barracks, Kentucky, by S. O. No. 79, c. s., War Department, Adjutant-General's office, April 20, the officer in command was ordered to conduct the detachment to Santa Fé, N. M., to report upon arrival to the commanding officer Fifteenth U. S. Infantry for assignment to the companies of that regiment.

Leave of absence for twenty days was granted Surgeon John Campbell, U. S. A., April 18.

**Fort Harker, Kansas.**—Surgeon B. E. Fryer, U. S. Army, at Fort Harker, Kansas, April 20 was ordered to join the detachment at that post, and proceed with it to Fort Union, New Mexico, reporting upon arrival to the commanding officer of that post, as required by S. O. No. 43, c. s., from department headquarters.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

*Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters San Antonio, Texas.*

**Fort Brown.**—General McCook's entire force at Fort Brown is occupied in guarding the river line to enforce an observance of the neutrality laws. In the event of either party at Matamoros being defeated, the refugees will seek safety on this side and increase the already disorderly element here, which will demand the utmost vigilance of the military and civil authorities to keep them in subjection.

**Fort McPherson.**—Captain Minhold, of the Third U. S. Cavalry, who went in pursuit of the band of Indians that drove off the stock near Fort McPherson, on the 24th inst., succeeded in overtaking about twenty of them. Three of the Indians were killed, and a portion of the stock recovered.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

*Major-General Geo. G. Meade: Headquarters, Philadelphia.*

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST.

*Brigadier-Gen. Irvin McDowell: Cor. Greene and Houston Sts., N.Y.*

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending May 1: Captain E. W. Clift, Thirtieth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Wm. B. Homer, Fifth Artillery; Captain Charles T. Greene, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant E. L. Zalinski, Fifth Artillery.

A JOINT resolution donating Governor's Island, New York Harbor, to the State of New York, has been introduced in the House by Mr. Ely. Section two provides that the resolution shall take effect January 1, 1873.

**First Artillery.**—First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback, April 23 was relieved from duty as a member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., by S. O. No. 64, c. s., from department headquarters. First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback will proceed to Lowell, Mass., under such special instructions as he has received from the department commander.

**Fifth Artillery.**—Leave of absence for thirty days was granted Captain B. F. Rittenhouse, April 26.

**Fort Columbus, N. Y. H.**—A General Court-martial met at Fort Columbus, N. Y. H., on the 2d of May. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Wallen, Eighth Infantry; Captain F. E. Taylor, First Artillery; Assistant Surgeon A. H. Hoff, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant Mott Hooton, Twenty-second Infantry; Second Lieutenants R. G. Rutherford, Twelfth Infantry, R. H. Patterson, and John Pope, Jr., First Artillery. Second Lieutenant D. M. Taylor, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

**Willet's Point, N. Y. H.**—A General Court-martial met at Willet's Point, N. Y. H., on the 2d of May. Detail for the court: Captains W. J. Twining, C. W. Raymond; First Lieutenants J. C. Post, C. E. L. B. Davis; Second Lieutenant F. A. Hinman, Corps of Engineers; (Additional) Second Lieutenant W. L. Marshall, Corps of Engineers. First Lieutenant W. H. Heuer, Corps of Engineers, was appointed judge-advocate.

**Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H.**—A General Court-martial met at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., on the 2d of May. Detail for the court: Captains H. W. Closson, W. L. Harkin; First Lieutenants E. D. Wheeler, A. E. Milmore, F. C. Nichols; Second Lieutenant C. L. Best, Jr., First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback, First Artillery, is appointed judge-advocate.

**Artillery School.**—The graduating exercises of the Artillery School were held on Thursday, April 25, in accordance with the programme published last week. General McDowell, commanding the Department of the



East, accompanied by one of his staff, arrived in the morning from New York, on a tour of inspection. At 10 o'clock a salute was fired in honor of his arrival, after which he proceeded to review the troops and inspect the post. General William F. Barry commanded the troops in person, and they presented a very fine appearance. In the afternoon the Fire Department, composed of about 200 men, with the hand-engines and a steamer, were paraded and inspected. In the evening there was a fine display of fireworks on the parade-ground, from pyrotechnics manufactured by the graduating class. After this was completed, the company all adjourned to the large hall used as a ball-room, and which had been tastefully decorated with flags, to witness the graduating ceremonies. The band of the Artillery School was on hand, of course, and covered itself with glory by the skillful rendition of some beautiful operatic pearls. Lieutenant James Chester, Third Artillery, was then introduced to the audience by General Barry, and proceeded to read an elaborate essay on the Franco-Prussian war, from its origin to the surrender at Sedan. It was a masterly effort, and showed that close attention and study had been given to the subject.

General Barry then introduced General McDowell to the audience, who addressed the graduating class as follows:

"It is several years since I first contemplated visiting the Artillery School, but one consideration or another has prevented my doing so until the present time. Even now, I have delayed so long, that when I left my headquarters, I thought all the exercises were over, and that I would see the officers before they left. I am glad to be here on this occasion, and to see the exercises, but I am unprepared to give an address worthy of the occasion, and which it so eminently calls for. I can but express to you the pride I take in the Artillery School and the interest I feel in this institution, and the good of its work. People can see very well an occupation for our infantry regiments, on our extreme frontier, in their encounters with the Indians—and some use for them yet in some of our Southern States, but I am frequently asked, 'What is the Artillery doing?' To give them an example, I will have to point to the Artillery School for this. It is instructing the officers and men fully in the duties of that branch of service, and fully am I convinced that this school is accomplishing this object. It has been said that mere books will not make soldiers, nor good officers, nor generals—will not make good engineers, good lawyers, or good surgeons. They will not give the surgeon that nerve, coolness and judgment necessary to perform a difficult operation. They will not teach the lawyer what questions to ask his witness and those he should not ask—nothing but practice and experience can do this, and so war makes the soldier. In ancient times, soldiers were mere prize-fighters, and possessed only brute courage. That day, however, has long since passed, and we now find that intellect has taken the front rank in modern warfare. Look at that pale student, Von Moltke! See with what a master hand he placed his forces, and defeated his adversary at every point in the late war—a description of which you have just listened to. As we have no war it is absolutely necessary that we should keep studying in time of peace, that when war comes we may not be found wanting in any respect. The country reasonably expects this of us. I am sure that after you have taken one year's inspection and gone away from here, the annoyances you may have experienced from the confinement of study will be altogether forgotten. I am very glad, gentlemen, to have had the pleasure of meeting you."

General Barry then closed the exercises with the following address to the graduating class:

OFFICERS OF THE CLASS OF 1872: General McDowell has done us the honor to be present on this occasion, and to deliver to you the parchment certificates, which you have earned, and which, by authority of the War Department, the staff of the Artillery School are empowered to award.

You have fairly earned this reward by the close attention to study and by the marked proficiency which has, in some respects, distinguished you, as a class, above your predecessors. I congratulate you very heartily that such is the fact. That the results of all the study and the practice that you have been subjected to here may not be merely ephemeral, but may be for the permanent advantage of the arm of service to which you belong, as well as to yourselves personally, there is yet much to be done, and it is to be done chiefly by yourselves. I have frequently urged this idea upon you, in private conversation as well as in more formal and public ways, but I deem it so important that I must ask you to permit me to bring it to your attention again. I beg you to remember always that the only chance, the only hope, of placing the artillery of our Army in the position it ought to occupy—and of keeping it there—lie in the personal character and habits, and in the professional attainments, of its individual officers.

We may talk "reform," or write "reform," till the crack of doom, but it will of itself avail nothing in the future precisely as it has availed nothing in the past. Every man's reform, like his charity, must begin at home. It is a question that depends mainly upon each individual.

Here at the Artillery School, as it is at West Point, the time is not sufficient to perfect the student in all that he ought to know of his profession; it barely suffices to give direction to his acquirements, and to point out the road by which he is to march, and the means which are to keep him in it. Chief among these means is the formation of the habit of study and of observation. This is not to be accomplished by mere desultory or intermittent efforts. These give birth alone to superficial qualities which may dazzle for the moment, or may possibly win temporary eulogy, but they do not produce that solid merit which alone can achieve permanent success. At the present day, when the march of scientific and technical improvement is so wonderful, the education of an artillery officer, if he truly becomes, or desires to become, efficient, must be ceaseless. He must

nourish himself by study and go on from day to day always learning. To be an officer of real practical and sound knowledge (not mere book, but applied knowledge) can only be accomplished by thought, by study, by experience confirmed over and over again by that practice which alone makes perfect. Discouragements will arise and obstacles apparently great will be encountered, but it is the attribute of real merit to look over and beyond these temporary difficulties, and to push forward in spite of them.

The class of 1872 has exhibited qualities which prove it to be capable of making this effort, and of making it intelligently as well as persistently, and which afford every reasonable hope that the seed which has been sown here has not fallen upon stony ground.

Wishing you, gentlemen, every success in your profession and in your private life, and hoping that your year at the Artillery School may always be represented and recurred to by you as one of pleasure as well as of profit, I now bid the class of 1872 farewell.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE LAKES.

Brigadier-General P. St. G. Cooke: Headquarters, Detroit, Mich.

Fort Porter, N. Y.—A General Court-martial met at Fort Porter, N. Y., April 30. Detail for the court: Captains R. E. Johnston, and W. N. Tisdall, First Infantry; J. E. Semple, assistant surgeon; First Lieutenants F. E. Pierce, and F. M. Lynde, First Infantry; Second Lieutenant D. M. Scott, First Infantry. Second Lieutenant R. G. Armstrong, First Infantry, judge-advocate.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Maj.-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Hdq'r's, San Francisco, Cal.

The following officers reported at headquarters Military Division of the Pacific during the week ending April 23, 1872: Lieutenant-Colonel Carey H. Fry, department paymaster-general; Captain W. H. Brown, Fifth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant F. A. Bontelle, First Cavalry; First Lieutenant A. B. Bache, Fifth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant W. P. Hall, Fifth Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel W. S. Elliott, First Cavalry; Colonel A. W. Preston, U. S. Army (retired).

#### DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

Fifth Cavalry.—The detachment of the Fifth Cavalry now at Benicia Barracks, April 9, was ordered to proceed by the *Neuborn*, on the next trip of this steamer, to Fort Yuma. All enlisted men and laundresses at Benicia Barracks, belonging to companies serving in the Department of Arizona, will accompany this detachment. Assistant Surgeon J. B. Girard, U. S. Army, under orders for the Department of Arizona, was ordered to report to the commanding officer, Benicia Barracks, to accompany the detachment of the Fifth Cavalry to Fort Yuma.

Second Artillery.—Company H April 10, was ordered via Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, to Sitka, to relieve Company I of this regiment. The latter Company on being relieved will take post at the Presidio of San Francisco. Company H must arrive at Fort Vancouver in time to embark on the steamer leaving there on June 1, 1872.

Leave of absence for two months, to date from May 1, 1872, has been granted to Second Lieutenant Clarence O. Howard, with permission to go beyond the limits of this Military Division, and to apply to the adjutant-general for an extension of four months.

Alcatraz Island, Cal.—The General Court-martial which convened at Alcatraz Island, California, April 2, by virtue of S. O. No. 45, c. s., headquarters Department of California, and of which Captain James M. Robertson, Second U. S. Artillery, is president, and Second Lieutenant Henry A. Reed, Second U. S. Artillery, judge-advocate, dissolved April 12.

Twenty-first Infantry.—Captain William Nelson, Company F, April 15, was directed to turn over the command of his company to First Lieutenant Thomas F. Riley, Twenty-first Infantry, now on duty with the company, and to report on May 20, 1872, at Tucson, Arizona Territory, to the judge-advocate of the General Court-martial appointed in S. O. No. 60, c. s., headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, as a witness in the trial of First Lieutenant Royal E. Whitman, Third Cavalry.

The recruits at Angel Island for the Twenty-first Infantry, April 15, were ordered to be assigned to companies by the regimental commander and to report for duty as the companies, to which they are assigned, arrive at that station.

#### DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Crook, Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.

COMPANIES A and D, Twenty-first Infantry, with their officers and families, left Tucson, Arizona, for Oregon, via Yuma, April 1. Companies E and K, same regiment, stationed at Crittenden, a few days later. Company E is in command of Captain E. Miles, and K of First Lieutenant Spurgeon, Major A. J. Dallas (and family), moved out April 1, for Camp Apache, and F Company Twentieth Infantry, in command of Captain J. T. Haskell and Second Lieutenant H. C. Johnson, moved out for Camp Bowie. On Thursday, April 4, a pack train with some 50,000 pounds of barley left Tucson for Camp McDowell, under an escort in command of Lieutenant Mickler, of the Fifth Cavalry, stationed at Camp Hualpai.

W. A. Tompkins, acting assistant surgeon, was ordered April 8 to report in person without delay, for duty to the commanding officer Camp Mojave, A. T., relieving Dr. F. S. Sterling, acting assistant surgeon, who will report for duty to the commanding officer Camp Hualpai, A. T. Hospital Steward Francis Tresselt is assigned to duty at Camp Grant, A. T.

First Cavalry.—Troop A, First Cavalry, was relieved from duty at Camp McDowell, A. T., and ordered to proceed without delay to and take station at Fort Whipple, A. T.

Third Cavalry.—Second Lieutenant William J. Ross, Twenty-first Infantry; Doctor O. B. Brierly, acting as-

sistant surgeon, U. S. Army; Chief Packer Thomas Moore, Camp Warner and Chief Packer John Bartlett, are ordered to report as witnesses to a General Court-martial which convenes at Tucson, Arizona Territory, on the 20th of May, 1872, for the trial of First Lieutenant Royal E. Whitman, Third Cavalry, and such other prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Washington L. Elliott, First Cavalry; Majors William B. Royall, Eugene W. Crittenden, Fifth Cavalry; Captain Edward H. Leib, Fifth Cavalry; Captain Thomas McGregor, First Cavalry; Captain Thomas M. K. Smith, Twenty-third Infantry; Captains John M. Hamilton, Robert H. Montgomery, Fifth Cavalry; Judge-Advocate, Major John C. Tidball, Second Artillery.

Fifth Cavalry.—A correspondent of the *Arizona Citizen* of March 23, reports that by order of Major E. W. Crittenden, commander of Camp Grant, in pursuance of department orders, First Lieutenant Reilly, with troop I, consisting of sixty men, and First Lieutenant Jacob Almy with ten men of his troop M, and ten from L, all of the Fifth Cavalry, accompanied by Surgeon J. A. Mullan, with the necessary transportation, all under command of Lieutenant Reilly, left Grant on February 3, for Arivipai Springs, at the head of Arivipai Canon, for the purpose of establishing a camp. The men all appeared glad to move out into the mountains—it seemed and looked like business and something to the purpose of their presence in Arizona. With the usual little steps for fixing packs, the command easily made about sixteen miles from Camp Grant and camped. After marching twenty-one or twenty-two miles on the second day their destination was reached, the whole distance being near forty miles. Here is where General Crook and command encamped for several days last August, which may have led to the selection now. Officers and soldiers at the date of the letter, March 6, had already got their quarters into shape and our camp has the look of a military cantonment. The whole command is healthy—not a complaint of illness since leaving Grant.

#### LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington:

#### ARMY.

APRIL 26.  
Blank, Captain. Jay, W., Colonel.  
Ellis, Captain. Owen, J. T., General.  
Hay, T. H., Major. Patrick, F. M., Captain.  
Sherman, A. P., Colonel.  
APRIL 30.  
Ellis, T. S., Captain. McDonald, Colonel.  
Kerwen, M., Colonel. Parsons, J., Major.  
Simmons, T. F., Colonel.

#### COMMANDER CROSMAN.

It seems only a few days since we bade farewell to Commander Crosman as he was about starting on the surveying expedition, which has been brought to a sudden termination by his death by drowning in the harbor of Greytown, Nicaragua. It was from him that we received the particulars of the expedition which we published at the time—and he seemed full of confidence as to its successful termination. The United States steamer *Kansas*, which arrived at Kingston, Jamaica, April 24, reported there that a fatal accident had happened to one of her boats, by which Crosman and several others on board were drowned. No particulars are given as to what others were lost with him, and we are only informed that his body could not be recovered. In reply to a despatch from the Secretary of the Navy to our Consul at Kingston, the same facts were reaffirmed, but no additional particulars given, except that the accident by which Commander Crosman lost his life occurred on the 12th of April. The deceased officer was one whom the Naval service can ill afford to lose. Intelligent, warm-hearted and zealous in his profession, he was bound to the service by too many personal and professional sympathies to be easily spared or soon forgotten. His last hours in New York were occupied in preparing for publication a book on seamanship, in which he had embodied the ripened results of professional study and experience. Portions of this work have appeared in this JOURNAL over the signature "Broad Clue," and we trust that it may speedily find publication, and be preserved as the legacy of its author to the profession to which he devoted the best years of his life, and from whose active service he has passed thus suddenly to the discharge of higher duties.

Commander Crosman was born in Missouri, June 11, 1838, and entered the Naval Academy from Pennsylvania, October 1, 1851. He served before the war in the Mediterranean squadron in 1856-'8, and in the Brazil squadron, Paraguay expedition, in 1858-'9. During the war he was attached to the East Gulf squadron—first to the gunboat *Tahoma*, and was subsequently in command of the steamer *Somerset*. From 1863 to 1865 he was in the South Atlantic squadron attached to the frigate *Wabash*, and did gallant service in various expeditions and minor engagements. Since the war he has been attached to the Naval Academy, the U. S. steamers *Ossipee* and *Onward*, and to the Portsmouth yard—his last orders being to the command of the Isthmus surveying expedition. The deceased officer comes of a gallant stock, he being the son of Colonel and Brevet Major General George H. Crosman, U. S. Army (retired), and the brother of Lieutenant Fred. E. Crosman of the regular Army, who died gallantly during the war of the Rebellion.



## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

### VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE Spanish iron-clad *Numancia* has arrived at Santiago de Cuba.

THE ocean telegraph announces the arrival of the United States steamer *Iroquois* at Gibraltar, April 16, 1872.

THE Senate Committee on Naval Affairs has amended the naval appropriation bill so as virtually to repeal the eight-hour law at the Brooklyn Navy-yard.

JOHN KEARNS, a seaman on the receiving ship *Vermont*, while attempting to desert on Wednesday night, April 24, was drowned. His body was recovered.

ADVISES from Aspinwall to April 20, reports that the steamer *Virginia* was ready for sea, and awaited the arrival of the United States steamer *Wyoming* before departing.

SENATOR Osborne introduced a bill on Friday of last week, authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to build a hospital at the Navy-yard at Pensacola, Florida, and appropriating \$25,000 for the purpose.

CAPTAIN MOFFITT, of the rebel navy, who was in command of the *Florida* at the time of her escape from Mobile harbor, was a witness before the court of inquiry in session at the Navy Department on Saturday.

ADMIRAL Alden, commanding the American fleet, visited the Bourse at Marseilles, France, April 26, and was received with distinguished honors by the members of the Chamber of Commerce and many of the leading citizens.

THE United States steamer *Tallapoosa* arrived at Fortress Monroe April 27, from Washington, having on board Hon. George M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy, and a distinguished party of Congressmen.

THE American Minister to Japan, C. E. De Long, now in this country, adds his testimony, from personal knowledge, in total denial of the malicious statements circulated about the time of the sinking of the ill-fated steamer *Onida*, that her officers were intoxicated when she was run into, and unable to care for their ship.

It is announced that our Government will co-operate with that of Great Britain in suppressing the slave trade in the Persian Gulf. The first United States man-of-war which visits Muscat will notify the Imam of the termination of the commercial treaty under the provisions of which the transportation of slaves from Zanzibar to Muscat was permitted.

AMONG the amendments to the Naval Appropriation bill in the Senate is one by Senator Ramsey, directing the accounting officers of the Treasury, in settling the accounts of Rear-Admiral Charles Wilkes, to credit him with the pay of a rear-admiral on the retired list, he having been promoted for meritorious and distinguished services.

MR. Maynard has introduced a bill into the House for the promotion of Commodore John P. Gillis, to the grade of rear-admiral on the retired list of the Navy, in consideration of the services rendered by him at Hatteras Inlet, Port Royal, Sewall's Point, re-occupation of Norfolk, Virginia, on the James and Potomac rivers, and in the Gulf of Mexico.

THE steamship *Nebraska*, which arrived at San Francisco April 25, reports that Commander R. W. Meade, of the United States steamer *Narragansett*, has made a formal treaty with the chiefs of the Navigator's Islands for the exclusive use of the harbor of Pago Pago by the United States Government and the California and Australian mail steamship line.

A DESPATCH from Marseilles, April 25, reports that an Italian bark, with a cargo of 1,900 cases of petroleum, took fire in the midst of the crowded shipping of that port. Through the energy of the officers and crew of the United States fleet then in the harbor, the burning vessel was isolated and an extensive conflagration averted. The Prefect and the merchants of Marseilles have returned thanks to the officer commanding the American fleet.

THE following nominations were confirmed by the Senate in executive session, on the 24th of April: First Assistant Engineer Fletcher A. Wilson, to be chief engineer in the Navy; William K. Nauman, to be second assistant engineer in the Navy; Commander Francis A. Roe, to be captain in the Navy; Lieutenant-Commander John Adams Howell, to be commander in the Navy; Lieutenant-Commander Allen V. Reed, to be commander in the Navy; Masters Daniel Delehanty, Charles O. Allibone, and Charles C. Cornwell, to be lieutenants in the Navy.

THE following vessels of the North American fleet were at Key West, April 21: United States steamer *Worcester*, Captain Richard T. Renshaw commanding; United States steamer *Canandaigua*, Captain Egbert Thompson commanding; United States steamer *Wyoming*, Commander John Lee Davis commanding, and United States monitor *Terror*, Captain S. P. Quackenbush commanding. The United States steamer *Nipsic*, Commander William P. McCann commanding, left Key West on the 19th inst., for Samana Bay, to relieve the United States steamer *Nantasket*, which was ordered to Key West. All well in the fleet.

THE United States steamer *Mohican* arrived at San Francisco April 19. She left La Paz March 26, experienced pleasant weather most all of the passage, with the exception of the 14th and 15th inst.; then had strong northerly gales. The health of the officers and crew is and has been excellent. List of officers: Commander, W. W. Low; Lieutenant-Commander, Louis Kempff; Lieutenant, Wm. Welch; Masters, Harry

Knox, Wm. Little, J. D. Adams, A. C. McMeahan; Chief Engineer, Philip Inch; Assistant Engineer, J. A. Tobin; Surgeon, F. E. Potter; Assistant Surgeon, M. D. Jones; P. A. Paymaster, J. Bayard Redfield; Midshipmen, F. W. Nabor, W. P. Elliott, H. P. McIntosh, C. A. Foster; Commander's Clerk, D. H. Everett; Boatswain, Jasper Coghlan; Gunner, J. R. Granger; Sailmaker, R. L. Tatem; Carpenter, D. W. Perry.

THE Philadelphia Press speaking of the retirement of Surgeon-General Foltz of the Navy, says:

"Surgeon Foltz of the Navy, appointed Surgeon-General, completed his term as such on the 25th of April, under the law which retires all officers when they attain the age of sixty-two. During his brief term he won the affection and secured the confidence of all his associates, and especially of the President and Secretary of the Navy. Dr. Foltz entered the Navy more than forty years ago, has seen much service, and served with distinction against the rebellion. We shall welcome him back to his home and friends in Philadelphia." We may add that the following officers of the Navy reach the date of their retirement the present year: Rear-Admiral James Alden May 31; Alfred Taylor May 23; Joseph Lanman July 18; John A. Winslow November 19; Joseph F. Greene November 24; Commodore Edward F. Middleton December 11; R. N. Stembel December 27.

THE failure of appropriations is leading to a general discharge of workmen at the various Navy-yards, and a consequent stagnation in the operations in the Government workshops. Some 200 men were discharged from the Brooklyn Navy-yard on Saturday, April 27; 327 from the Portsmouth Navy-yard on Tuesday, April 29, and 250 from the Charlestown Navy-yard on the same day. This will save some forty or fifty thousand dollars a month. At the Charlestown Navy-yard the force is reduced to 600 men. Work upon the new sloop-of-war will be continued as well as it can be with the reduced force. The new torpedo-boat, which is to be built in the new ship-house near the main gate, has been begun, and her keel has been got out in some of the shops. The *Vandalia*, on the dry dock, is nearly torn to pieces, and a lot of old wood from her sold by auction in the yard. The foundations for a new stable for the horses of the fire department have been laid in the Navy-yard, but the building will not be erected for some time, on account of the smallness of the Naval appropriation. The transport *Fralic* is expected with stores from Washington. After they have been landed she will take on board the Manila rigging made for the frigate *Wabash*, but which has not been used, as the vessel has been wire-rigged. The hemp rigging will be taken to New York and used on the frigate *Minnesota*.

THE Herald special correspondent in Hong Kong, China, supplies the following report of the condition of the United States Asiatic fleet under date of Hong Kong, March 14: The Pacific mail steamship *America* arrived from San Francisco after a very rough passage of thirty-eight days. She brings no Eastern dates later than January 14, though she waited till the 4th of February, three days after her usual day of sailing. No trains had come through on the Pacific railroad for ten days. This failure to connect caused great anxiety in the fleet, as all were looking very eagerly for the new admiral, who was expected out by the *America* to relieve Rear-Admiral Rodgers as commander-in-chief of the Asiatic fleet. There have been two cases of small-pox on the *Colorado* at Hong Kong; John Kelly, a seaman on board, died of small-pox in the hospital on shore, the 8th of March. In the other case the patient recovered soon after removal to the hospital. The health of the fleet is now generally very good. Even the man Cronin, who was so severely injured by falling on deck from near the top of the *Colorado's* mainmast, is still alive and doing well, with a fair prospect of recovery. The *Benicia* came in from Manila on the 21st. The *Alaska* has been at Yokohama since last November. The *Ashuelot*, after doing good service near Foochow by finding the hidden rock on which the *Suwonada* was so fatally injured, has taken our consul at Amoy, Mr. Le Gendre, over to Formosa, whence she is expected to come down to Hong Kong. The *Monocacy* has been guarding American interests at Shanghai during the winter, and the little *Palos* doing similar duty at Tien-tsin. She is expected to come down here soon after the ice breaks up. The United States steamer *Junata*, Commander Luce, arrived at Genoa on the 9th instant from Villa Franca, and sailed the same evening for Toulon after having shipped some torpedoes.

THE daily papers have been making much of a difficulty which has arisen between Chaplain James J. Kane and Lieutenant Eugene B. Thomas, U. S. Navy, of the receiving ship *Vermont*, Brooklyn Navy-yard, which finally culminated in the arrest of Lieutenant Thomas, on the complaint of the Chaplain, who is evidently a believer in the law as well as in the Gospel. The story, as told with much elaboration by the Brooklyn Union, is as follows: One bleak, raw, Sunday morning in the middle of February, at the hour for commencing divine service, when Lieutenant Thomas was the officer in charge of the deck, Mr. Kane had hailed the scow which conveys passengers to and fro between the ship and the yard, and the marines in charge of the scow had started from the opposite side to bring him and a party accompanying him across; when about half way over they were commanded by Lieutenant Thomas to return. It seems that the Quartermaster did not report to Mr. Thomas that the Chaplain was on the other side, and that the scow had been called back, as was customary in such cases, because an officer came up on deck who was going on shore. After the Chaplain's group had stood shivering in the cold for some time, they were conveyed across to the ship. When the Chaplain came on board he did not salute Lieutenant Thomas as was customary, but demanded what he kept him waiting so long for. Lieutenant Thomas replied that he could not talk to him on the quarter-deck, but that if he had any complaint to make he could go to the commanding officer, Captain Waters. The Chaplain at once prepared charges against

Lieutenant Thomas for treating him disrespectfully, and delaying divine service, to which Lieutenant Thomas, who had been shown the charges, wrote his rejoinder. Both documents were forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy, who wrote back, saying that there was no blame attachable to Lieutenant Thomas, but ordered the scow to be at the landing and await the coming of Mr. Kane every Sunday morning.

Lieutenant Thomas had preferred counter charges against Mr. Kane, concerning the alleged purchase of an organ for the crew on commission. The charge was that the Chaplain had bargained with Mr. Slade for the purchase of a \$300 organ for use at the exercises, and he was to have seventy-five dollars commission to himself.

During the war Chaplain Kane was an acting ensign, and at this time he was claiming in advance of "eight numbers," basing his application upon some act of extraordinary heroism. Although the charge of buying the organ on commission was not established, the effect of the charges was that he did not obtain the advance.

This added fuel to the flame, and the Chaplain denounced Lieutenant Thomas in strong terms, and it is said referred to him in his sermons, always in Lieutenant Thomas's absence.

As Lieutenant Thomas was about to proceed to Washington, where he was assigned to duty in the Hydrographic office, he was waited upon by Deputy Sheriff James Campbell, armed with a warrant from Judge Pratt for his arrest, at the instance of Mr. Kane, charging him with circulating alleged slanderous accusations.

The action instituted by Mr. Kane will come up next Monday, May 6, on a motion by counsel for the defendant to transfer the case from the State Court to the United States Court for trial.

### HARVEY'S SEA TORPEDOES IN ITALY.

(From the London Standard.)

WE have already from time to time traced the progress of Commander Harvey's torpedo abroad with very keen interest. We have now to record the details of experimental practice carried out at the request of the Italian Government at Spezzia. The ram *Videtta*, a screw vessel of 188 feet in length and 827 tons burden, and having a speed of from eight to ten knots, Commander Giuseppe Palumbo, was assigned to this duty, having on board the Commander-in-Chief of the port, Admiral Isola, Admiral di Menali, Director-General of the Arsenal, and the commission appointed by the Government—namely, Captain of frigate *Enrico Morino*, president, Lieutenant Alfonso di Vascello, Lieutenant S. E. Guglielminetto, and Lieutenant Lugotemente di Vascello; and a number of the officers belonging to the ships in port. The large brake was screwed into the ram's deck on the port side of the quarter deck, and the small brake on the starboard side of the poop; the safety-key reel for the large torpedo on the port side of the poop. The wire rope used in towing the torpedoes was made by Messrs. Wilkins and Weatherley, and the torpedoes and gear by Messrs. Vavasseur and Company, London Ordnance Works. The first attack was made on a boat astern of the old line-of-battle ship *Re Galantuomo*, by coming up from astern, with large port torpedo charged with water. Torpedo dipped under boat and struck her bottom, slewing her round and knocking the torpedo levers close home. The ram was steered by Commander Palumbo, the brake being attended by Commander Harvey. The torpedo was hauled on board, when the capsule was found to be pierced, showing that explosion would have occurred had it been loaded. The safety-key was worked on this occasion by the reel on the poop, and was not drawn until ordered. The second attack was made with the same torpedo, by coming up from astern, on the *Citta di Napoli*. The torpedo acted under the counter, the capsule-being pierced. Speed of ram about eight knots in the above attacks. Both torpedoes were then towed free, showing full four points divergence from either quarter.

The method of exploding was next explained in the cabin, which was closely packed by the officers present, and who certainly viewed with some astonishment the skill with which the inventor filled the exploding bolt, and having adjusted the key, threw it boldly about on the floor, to show its capability of withstanding rough usage; it was afterwards taken on deck and exploded. Several of the loading cartridges were also fired to demonstrate their certainty of action, and various violent powders suited for charging the torpedoes—Horsley's powder, lithofracteur, etc.—were then shown to the commission. Other torpedo experiments were made—the admiral-president of the committee expressing himself most favorably impressed with the results of the official trials; and this appreciation will be the more clearly valued when we remind our readers that in Italy the authorities had very definite knowledge of Whitehead's fish-torpedo before the English Government made so extravagant a bid for its seemingly not very practical secret. It may be mentioned in proof of the reliability of every portion of Commander Harvey's torpedo, that in one of the experiments on this occasion the large torpedo was let fall from the top of the bulwark to the deck with such force that both side levers were bent double, but the safety-key, nevertheless, held its own in the exploding bolt without moving, showing that had the torpedo been charged no explosion would have happened from the accident. The levers were quickly replaced by new ones, and the torpedo was ready again for action without being in any way disabled by its rough treatment. The torpedoes were worked generally with about fifty fathoms of line out, and about six fathoms of buoy rope. On a subsequent occasion it was desired to see what a very small tug-boat, the *San Pietra*, could do with these weapons; she being but 50 horse-power, with very low speed, could only tow the small torpedo, and this having been dipped, she could but very slowly bring it up to the surface again. A drawing of a suitable vessel, designed under Commander Harvey's instruction, was shown to the authorities, and was undoubtedly well appreciated by the Constructive Department. Every attention and



assistance was given to Commander Harvey by the Italian officers, who manifested a strong desire to become thoroughly acquainted with the weapon and to acquire skill in its practice.

THE armament of the *Thunderer*, lately launched from the government dock-yard at Pembroke, England, consists of four 35-ton guns working in turrets, besides other but, smaller weapons. Her tonnage is 4,400, she has a horse-power of 5,600, divided between two double engines, and will be able to attain a speed of about 12 1/2 knots an hour. Her freeboard is about four feet six inches out of the water, but, the breastwork having been raised to the height of 9 feet in addition, further stability will be secured. The range of the guns will be great, as they have been elevated to a level with the top of the breastwork—namely 13 feet above the water line; and the result of this is that they can be used even in the roughest weather. The length of the vessel is 285 feet, the breadth amidships 62 feet, and she will draw about 26 feet of water when fully equipped.

Although the iron at the stem of the ship will not exceed 8 inches in thickness, the broadside is protected by 12 inches of plating, while the turret carries 14 inches of armor, supported by the usual backing. The plating of the *Thunderer* is thus thicker than that of any other iron-clad except that of her sister ship, the *Devastation*, and appears to be as strong as can be carried by vessels of the size of that launched recently. When the vessel was first designed it was considered that the 12-inch plates would be impenetrable to the most powerful guns. But the adoption of improved gunpowder and guns has entirely upset these calculations. Lord Dufferin, as chairman of a committee appointed by the British admiralty to examine the designs upon which ships of war are constructed, has submitted a letter to his government in which Sir William Armstrong offers to make a rifled gun of 14-inch calibre, throwing a shot of half a ton in weight with a charge of two hundredweight of powder, and capable of penetrating anything less than 20 inches of iron-plating; together with an offer from Sir Joseph Whitworth to construct a gun of 13-inch bore, which would be able to penetrate 24 inches of iron, or one of 11 inches in calibre, capable of sending a shot through 16 inches of plate at 1,000 yards. In order to assure the stability of the ship, no masts have been placed in her, and the sole motive power lies, therefore, in her engines as she is intended simply for coast defence. Besides this, the two engines are totally distinct, working on a twin screw, and capable, either of them, of propelling the ship with ease. The coal storage of the *Thunderer* is sufficient to carry 1,750 tons.

URGING the use of heavy guns for coast defence as well as for offensive naval warfare, *Broad Arrow* says: "Let it never be forgotten that it was the development of the principle of the large gun by the Americans in the war of 1812 that cost us the loss of the *Java*, *Guerriere*, and *Macedonian*. On August 19, 1812, the *Guerriere*, Captain Dacres, was captured by the *Constitution*, Captain Hull; on the 25th October, the *Macedonian*, Captain Garden, by the *United States*, Commodore Decatur; and on the 29th of December, the *Java*, Captain Lambert, by the *Constitution*, Commodore Bainbridge. The *Guerriere* and the *Java* were destroyed at sea, but the *Macedonian* became an American frigate. The actions, though of course differing in details, possessed several characteristics in common. Each captured frigate made an obstinate resistance, during from one to two hours of actual firing, according to the British accounts; and all the three actions were decided in consequence of the British ships become dismasted by the heavy metal of her opponent, which enabled the latter to rake her with impunity, until further resistance was impossible. This is simply matter of evidence. The English frigates were all of the same class, and mounted from forty-six to forty-eight guns; twenty-eight long 18-pounders, four 9-pounders, and the rest 32-pounder carronades. In size they were all below eleven hundred tons, and their regular complement was three hundred men and boys; but the *Guerriere* was nearly forty men short, and the *Java* had on board from seventy to eighty supernumeraries. As an example of the superior power of the American ships, we may instance the *President*, a vessel of the same class, subsequently captured by the British. This frigate measured 1,533 tons; her sides and bulwarks were thicker, and her spars and rigging stouter, than those of a British seventy-four-gun ship; and she was an excellent sailer. She was pierced for fifty-six guns, and mounted, at her capture, fifty-two; thirty-two long 24-pounders, and twenty 42-pounder carronades. Her complement was understood to be four hundred and eighty men. In these details there is no room for mistake, the *President* having been surveyed as a British frigate, and every particular respecting her being recorded in the official archives of the British navy. The *United States* and *Constitution* are acknowledged by the Americans to have been precisely similar in size and force to the *President*, except that each, we believe, mounted fifty-four instead of fifty-two guns, and that the *Constitution* carried 32 instead of 45-pounder carronades. Thus the weight of broadside of the lightest of the two American was nearly one-half heavier than that of any one of the three British frigates. Such a superiority as this renders it needless to mention the crippled masts of the *Guerriere* or the inexperienced crew of the *Java*. That there should have been a different result in either of the three actions, was clearly a physical impossibility.

"A CAPTAIN, R. N.," writes to the *Army and Navy Gazette*: "As I know you have frequently advocated a change in naval titles, so that the real rank of naval officers should be known by their titles, may I beg the assistance of your valuable paper to recommend that naval officers one and all should stir themselves in the matter; and I think that were a meeting of naval officers arranged and advertised to take place in London, to discuss this subject, a very great number would at-

tend; and to carry this properly into effect some influential officer ought to move in the matter, and then, after an agreement had been come to as to the changes advisable in naval titles, if H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh would take the thing in hand, no doubt it would succeed. I think it would do more towards content in the navy than any other thing I am aware of.

It is reported that during the coming spring the British iron-clad *Hotspur* is intended to attack the British iron-clad *Glatton*, in order to test the real strength of revolving turrets, the advantages and disadvantages of the system under fire and other points. The *Glatton* will have her armament removed first. This cannonade, says the *Telegraph*, "ought to be thoroughly carried out, since London only thus will it be worth all its cost; and it must be expensive work to be blazing away at our own Navy. A very little of such crucial experimentalizing ought to go a long distance indeed toward teaching the Chief Constructor of our Navy what to build."

## NAVY GAZETTE.

### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

#### ORDERED.

APRIL 25.—First Assistant Engineer A. S. Greene, and Second Assistant Engineer James Godfrey, to the Nantasket, per steamer of May 2.

APRIL 26.—Master George W. Tyler, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Norfolk, Va.

Medical Director David Harlan, to the Naval Hospital at Annapolis, Md.

Surgeon Adrien Hudson, to the Michigan.

Assistant Surgeon John C. Wise, to the receiving ship New Hampshire.

Assistant Surgeon Adam Frank to the receiving ship Vermont.

APRIL 27.—Paymaster J. E. Telfree, to the receiving ship Vermont.

#### DETACHED.

APRIL 25.—First Assistant Engineer Joseph H. Bailey, from the Nantasket, and ordered to return home.

APRIL 26.—Commander Robert Bradford, from special ordnance duty at Pittsburg, Pa., and ordered as inspector of ordnance at the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

Medical Director Wm. Grier, from the Naval Hospital at Annapolis, Md., and placed on waiting orders.

Surgeon A. S. Oberly, from the receiving ship Ohio, and ordered to the Navy-yard, Boston, Mass.

Surgeon Joseph Hogg, from the Brooklyn, and ordered to return home.

Surgeon Samuel Shaw, from the Michigan, and ordered to the Naval Hospital, New York.

Passed Assistant Surgeon D. McMurrin, from the Vermont, and ordered to the Ashuelot, Pacific Fleet.

Passed Assistant Surgeon J. W. Coles, from the Ashuelot, and ordered to return home.

Passed Assistant Surgeon J. B. Ackley, from the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, and ordered to the Brooklyn, European Fleet.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Edward Kershner, from the Naval Hospital, New York, and ordered to the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

Passed Assistant Surgeon F. M. Dearborne, from the Chelsea Hospital, and ordered to the receiving ship Ohio.

Chief Engineer David Smith, from the Bureau of Steam Engineering, and ordered to the Tuscarora May 15.

APRIL 27.—Lieutenant-Commander James O'Kane, from ordnance duty at Pittsburg, Pa., and ordered to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

Paymaster J. H. Stevenson, from the receiving ship Vermont, and ordered to settle accounts.

Chief Engineer James B. Kimball, from the Terror, and placed on sick leave.

Chief Engineer Elijah Laws, from special duty at Key West, Fla., and ordered to the Terror.

APRIL 29.—Master Thomas N. Lee, from the Hydrographic Office, and preparatory orders for sea service.

### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States which have been reported to the Surgeon-General of the U. S. Navy and chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending April 27, 1872:

Thomas Gilmore, marine, April 18, Naval Hospital, Norfolk.

James M. Clark, second assistant engineer, April 24, Philadelphia.

John Kelly, ordinary seaman, March 6, U. S. steamer Colorado, at Hong Kong.

### FOREIGN ITEMS.

CANNON on the Armstrong principle, are now made at Mr. Aal's works at Nos. and have already been tried, and given such satisfaction that orders have been sent for some to be forwarded to the Danish Government.

THE Scientific Committee at Woolwich, fortified by a liberal vote in the British Army estimates for torpedo experiments, are making extended investigations into the characteristics of the several kinds yet invented, and the conditions most favorable to their use.

The whole of the 35-ton guns yet completed (which, including the "Woolwich Infant," are ten in number) have now passed through the proof-test, and, excepting the "infant" (which is disabled), have only to be sighted and fitted with the usual adjusting scales, to be ready for service.

ADMIRALS Ryder and Elliot of the British navy propose to remedy the weakness of the rotatory turret in ships of war by erecting a fixed turret, over which the guns are to be fired en barbette, recoiling down under cover for loading. At St. Petersburg Admiral Popoff is engaged in carrying out a similar plan, but is applying it to vessels of circular form, which are very thickly armor-plated. The experiments which have been made with vessels of twenty and thirty feet diameter show that a fair speed can be obtained with this form of battery.

An article in the *Italia*, an Italian journal, on "Italy and the Roman question," ends as follows: "France has the history of mankind before her eyes, and has only to read in order to choose her own destiny. Those countries which have allowed religious influences to preponderate in the affairs of State, have, like Spain and the republics of South America, sunk to the last degree of political and material misery; but those countries which knew how to resist these clerical influences have become great, rich, and powerful. We will not try to explain this fact; it is sufficient for us to call it to memory. France may find in her own history, and that without going very far back, several examples from which she may learn a great deal on this subject."

THE *Peking Gazette* of the 31st of December, as quoted in the *London and China Telegraph*, contains a well-defined instance of the possible result of the system of making private reports on regimental officers to head-

quarters. In reply to a memorial addressed to the throne by Tsengkwofan, containing an account of a tour of inspection through the provinces under his control, the following imperial edict has been issued:—"Chang Yun-hsiang, colonel of the Wu-sung battalion, and eleven others belonging to different regiments, are to be promoted, whenever vacancies occur, without regard to routine. Hwa Feng, lieutenant-colonel of the Soochow and Sung-kiang division, and two others are dismissed on account of old age and general infirmity, but not deprived of rank. Ting Jen-lin is degraded because of his physical weakness. Hsu Hsien-chuen, captain of the Kiang-yin battalion, is cashiered, but not deprived of rank, on account of his slowness and stupidity. Wang Wen, major of the Hung-hu battalion, and ten others belonging to different battalions, are dismissed on account of obstinacy, stupidity, laziness, and cupidity."

THE semi-official Hungarian paper, *Pesther Lloyd*, observes that the announcement of the proposed fortifications of Sebastopol, and other points in the Crimea, has nothing alarming about it, for the simple reason that there is no chance of a new war like that in Crimea. Since 1854 the fact that Russia's way to Constantinople lies through Vienna and Pesth has grown into a dogma. Any future war arising out of the Eastern question would be settled either in Poland proper or in the western provinces of Russia. Nobody cares, or is likely to care, for the Crimea or the shores of the Black Sea. In 1854 Austro-Hungary was neutral, and the allied armies were consequently, obliged to operate on the Black Sea or Baltic, besides which they had to destroy Sebastopol, then a standing menace to Constantinople. But now circumstances have entirely changed. By the participation of Austria in the war a much more convenient and less costly battle-field would be created on Russia's western frontier; and Sebastopol threatens Constantinople no longer. If, notwithstanding this, Russia should rebuild the fortifications of Sebastopol, her only object could be to restore that fortress to its former position as a menace to Turkey; and this would prove that the tendency of Russian policy continues to be aggressive. "Yet, we think," pursues the *Lloyd*, "that England has no reason for alarm, nor France for rejoicing. By the time that Sebastopol's fortifications are completed, Turkey will be better able to protect her capital than she was twenty years ago. She has an excellent naval arsenal at the Golden Horn, and another at Eregli on the Black Sea; besides which Sinope has, during the past year, been raised to the position of a naval fortress of the first class, and is provided with all sorts of naval establishments on a large scale. The coast, too, is defended by well-fortified ports at Soutari, Trebizond, and Samsoon."

THE state of affairs in Elsass are becoming more and more satisfactory. By quiet energy, by a prevalence of a mild conciliatory feeling, as also by a timely application of decided severity, as soon as it became necessary, the German government has effectually removed the many symptoms of hate formerly manifested by the inhabitants; and, though even now adhesion to France is professed it is no longer coupled with the obstinate opposition to everything that is German and an intentional ignoring of the many benefits the change has brought with it. On the contrary, it is more thoroughly appreciated, and despite the lingering pain of the fearful calamity that has severed so many ties endeared by habit, a certain satisfaction is felt in the circumstance that the Elsassers and Lothringers have come out so much better than the rest of the French, and if it is not admitted openly, it is felt, at any rate, that under the protection of the German empire everything offers a more promising and more prosperous future. The commerce of Elsass-Lothringen is increasing in every direction, in fact, it is astonishing how rapidly the commercial interests have recovered from the great stoppage caused by the war. The factories everywhere have more work than they can possibly do, as far as general local and retail trade is concerned. Only one thing oppresses the general feeling. The time has come in which the Elsassers and Lothringers will be called upon to perform German military duty, and the *Reichsgesetz*, relating thereto published recently, fixes the day for muster on the 1st of October. It has been the cause of constant alarm; many young people have left their homes on its account, and but a short time ago the burgomasters of most of the larger cities sent a petition to Chancellor Bismarck earnestly entreating him to delay the measure for five or six years, for that to call out now the population to partake in the military duty, would be expecting of it a patriotism it does not possess, for it cannot forget that it has just belonged to France. That the introduction of such a radical measure, which touches every connection, would have most disastrous effects. The emigration would increase, and the loss of so many forces which the workshops, factories, and farms would have to endure, would affect the industry as well as all interests of the country in the most unwholesome manner. In Berlin no notice has been taken of this petition, since it is held that this measure, on which all the interests of the new German empire are based, must be introduced some time anyhow, it is better that it be done as soon as possible, as a later introduction would perhaps create new disturbances, whereas now it will in a great degree aid in Germanizing the provinces. That since it is not the desire to force any one to become a member of the German nation, but that all in Elsass-Lothringen who wish to adhere to the French are at liberty to avoid the duties involved in German citizenship, it is in no way unjust of Germany to desire that the young generation of the *Reichsland* should as soon as possible enter the school of the German nation—their army.

AUTHENTIC information has been received in Washington to the effect that Mr. Catacazy's justification of himself has been considered attentively in the Council of the Empire. He is utterly disgraced, and has left St. Petersburg for Paris with a pension of 3,000 rubles per annum. This pension is so settled that it will be withdrawn if Mr. Catacazy makes any publication, or gives new cause of offence.



## BIRTH.

QUINTON.—At Fort Shaw, April 9, to Mrs. Quinton, wife of Lieutenant Wm. Quinton, Seventh U. S. Infantry, a daughter.

## MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of 50 cents each.]

WIEHING—VODGES.—On Thursday, April 25, at St. John's church, Fort Hamilton, L. I., by Rev. C. C. Adams, ORLANDO L. WIEHING, to ANNIE W., daughter of General I. Vodges.

GREGG—KILPECK.—At Fort Mason, N. C., April 17, 1872, by the Rev. Mr. Harding, at the residence of the bride's parents, Sergeant JOHN GREGG, Battery L, Fourth Artillery, to MARY, daughter of Wagoner Edward Kilpeck, Battery K, Fourth Artillery. (No cards.)

SMITH—LEWIS.—On Tuesday, April 30, at the Church of the Incarnation, by the Rev. Dr. Montgomery, FREDRICK R. SMITH, Lieutenant-Commander, U. S. N., to CARRIE S., daughter of the late S. S. Lewis, of Boston.

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General Sherman, U. S. Army, and lady, Washington, D. C.; Ad-  
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jor-General G. G. Meade, U. S. Army, Philadelphia; General Hart-  
man Bache, U. S. Army, Philadelphia; Brigadier-General I. N.  
Palmer, U. S. Army, Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Gra-  
ham, U. S. Army, San Francisco, Cal.; Brigadier-General Wm.  
M. Graham, U. S. Army, Fort Hamilton, N. Y.; Mrs. Admiral  
Dahlgren, Washington, D. C.

The current number of the *Prussian Artillery and Engineer Magazine* quotes in full two of our editorials—one on Captain MICHAELIS's Translation of NICAISE's Belgian Field Artillery; the other on Major KING's Counterpoise Carriage. We think these among other facts might teach a lesson to our Engineer and Ordnance Corps. We know that officers are assigned to duty in the German War Ministry, whose duty it is carefully to scan foreign military periodicals, and to translate whatever may strike them as of possible use or of practicable benefit. Some such plan should be adopted by the authorities in Washington. The German and French military journals are at present teeming with subjects of the profoundest interest to engineer and ordnance officers, and it strikes us that they would perhaps furnish the results of valuable experience at a cost against which the most single-minded Congressional advocate of economy could not grumble.

SENATOR WRIGHT's bill to place the name of Major Samuel Ross upon the retired list of the Army, according to the proceedings of the Retiring Board at San Francisco, in December 1872, has passed the Senate. It is provided that the placing of his name upon the retired list shall take effect for rank and pay from January 1, 1871, and the Army records and Register are to be corrected so that the name of Ross will appear as continuously in service. All moneys as pay or emoluments which have been received by him on account of being declared mustered out are to be deducted from his pay, as a retired officer, accruing from January 1, 1871.

To parties wishing to attend the Reunion of the Army of the Potomac, the Cavalry Corps, the Ninth Corps, and the Sixth Corps, and the Grand Army of the Republic, the Erie Railway will sell excursion or round trip tickets to Cleveland at the following rates: From New York, \$15; Boston, \$23; Philadelphia, \$15; Binghamton, \$13; Owego, \$12.75; Elmira, \$12.25. Tickets will be valid for pass between May 1 and 15.

## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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## THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

THE Pacific railroad was expected to work out two reforms, both of them belonging to questions which were and are still among the most puzzling in our national economy—polygamy and the fate of the Indian tribes. It was not expected that these reforms would be accomplished without a struggle, and perhaps a long one, and according to the news from the west both conflicts appear to be culminating at one time. The last year has been a disastrous one for the Mormons. Their leader and many of his subordinate apostles have been under arrest, the secret history of his rule has for the first time been subjected to scrutiny, and polygamy has been effectually estopped. These triumphs too are none the less real for the decision of the Supreme Court. It may be that BRIGHAM YOUNG will never be brought to trial for those crimes with which he is charged, and that no one will be punished for the outrages which have undoubtedly been committed. At all events, that course of crime cannot be resumed. Though peaceable citizens not Mormons may still be subjected to insult in Utah, their lives are now safe, and there is one less of those spots in this country where the flag of the United States fails to protect all alike. We would gladly have seen this result attained by a more vigorous action on the part of the Government. The most galling fact in the maltreatment of the so-called "Gentiles" by the Mormons has been that the latter were not citizens of this republic. For the most part they are subjects of various foreign countries, who transferred their alliance from VICTORIA, CHRISTIAN, WILLIAM, CARL of Sweden, and other monarchs, to BRIGHAM YOUNG. They made use of United States territory as a thoroughfare only, but openly declared their independence of its Government and never pretended to conform to the regulations our laws prescribe for the naturalization of foreigners. Thus our own citizens have, in the country of their birth, and under the shadow of their own flag, suffered the domination of foreigners. It was a domination our Government was bound to remove or consider itself and its citizens subordinate to a community made up of the dregs of foreign nations. But the remedy was difficult to apply and there was a time when this peculiar form of oppression was almost incurable, but that time passed when the Pacific road reached Ogden, and the condition of American citizens in Utah has rapidly changed since then.

But there is another aspect to this question. The road has not only subdued the Mormons but it has made them anxious to come into the Union. Utah, however, though one of the most populous of the western Territories, probably contains fewer legal voters than any other. Inasmuch as changing the political status of a part of our country from that of a Territory to that of a State is quite unlike the admission to the Union of a foreign country over which we have never exercised rights of government, it is very doubtful whether these foreigners have any right to cast a vote upon the subject of such a change. It is also equally doubtful that the act of admission would make citizens of persons who had never fulfilled the requirements demanded of the foreigner when seeking citizenship. The gentlemen at Washington may find it to their advantage to institute an in-

quiry into the number of legal voters living in Utah.

The Pacific railroad has however done the part expected of it in regard to the Mormons. The opening of the mines there is directly due to the facilities it gives for intercourse. A horde of Gentiles promises to drown out Mormonism so far as its worst characteristics are concerned, and though Utah, in spite of the absurd stories in regard to its agricultural wealth, has little to attract the farmer in the way of a pleasant home and fruitful fields, it has much in the way of a market, and we may confidently look to see a steady increase of the best kind of population there.

As to the Indians, whatever the road accomplishes will be a victory less peaceful than even that over Latter Day Sanctity. We have had no trouble as yet of a serious nature upon the existing road. But the Indians in Montana threaten to make war as soon as the Northern Pacific crosses the Missouri river. That the Government places faith in their threats is proved by the order transferring the Sixth Infantry from Kansas to the upper Missouri. Thus we may have war upon our hands very soon. It may be too that the expectation of such a result of our road-building inclines us to give too ready an ear to these threats, but it is undeniable that war with the tribes may easily follow the track-laying. It may be long and annoying, but it is one to the most thorough prosecution of which our Government fully committed itself in passing the Pacific railroad bill. Even if no war comes, the permanence given to mining camps and farming settlements in the heart of the continent, and the immense increase of these cannot but ensure the end of Indian domination in a much shorter time than it could have been accomplished without its aid. The Pacific railroad—and in this term we mean to include all the lines built or building—has fulfilled all the political demands made of it. If its work in Utah is incomplete it is by fault of the law; if no war of extermination is progressing against the Indian tribes, it is because milder measures are sufficient.

ALTHOUGH this journal might be expected to view with at least perfunctory and professional approval the reorganization of civilized nations on a strictly military basis, which is now going on, we are still forced to confess that the hand of national progress has apparently been set back on the dial by the French-German war. The systems of military service have certainly been perfected by the general adoption of the Prussian method; but what is that method? It is a device for enabling a nation to carry too large an army on its back without breaking down. Of course the numbers set down on paper are greatly exaggerated in peace, and a thousand laxities of discipline are resorted to, in order to lighten the burden and strengthen the country up to the bearing point. But nevertheless, with all possible alleviations, an army of the normal strength of 1,200,000 men is more than broken-down France ought to think of; 1,700,000 men are more than Germany can well withdraw from productive industry even for a few weeks in each year, and 2,700,000 men subject to the distractions of public service cannot aid Russia in the formative work which she has pursued so nobly. Italy seems to regard her army as more necessary than national prosperity, and clings to a great military force in preference to putting an end to the yearly deficit in her finances. England, far more fertile and proportionately more populous than any of these nations, has the smallest army in Europe.

Universal military service is essentially a republican doctrine. An equal division of national duties is closely connected with the idea of an equal division of national rights and honors. In old times armies were gathered without regard either to right or duty. The ruler seized men where he could find them, and armies were often made up from the population of a conquered country. Universal service being republican in principle it would be natural to look for its exemplification in the first of great republics. It has indeed been proclaimed from the first as a principle of our Government, and the laws of several States recognize it, in conjunction with jury duty, as a proper debt of the citizen to his Government. But the citizens have preferred to accept the infrequent chance of the jury panel to the certain



and periodical demands of the drill-room, and the result has been a national guard which is, in the highest sense, incomplete and unorganized. This state of affairs we lament; but it is constantly improving, and with the introduction of scientific rifle practice we look to see the next five years produce a greater change for the better than even the war itself wrought. See what results Lord NAPIER of Magdala has accomplished in India by the few prizes—a cup, a watch and a sword—he offers each year! The foreign papers say that “last year (the first) there were 1,950 competitors for these prizes; this year there have been 3,100! The shooting also has improved wonderfully. In 1870-’71 the improvement, taking the shooting of the whole army together, was as great as 25 points over the register of the previous twelvemonth, and this year there has been a further advance of 14 points—a total gain in two years of 39 points. The special prizes are a cup, valued in England at £70, a watch at £20, and a sword at £10.”

We should indeed be satisfied with the prospects of American national armament if all the States would provide for the equipment of such citizens as chose to enroll themselves, and add thereto an enticement, like that of rifle practice, and honorable because *real* drill. We have no wish to see a million and a half of men assembled every year, and do not think it necessary to attempt such a permanent force.

As to the Army, we should like to see enough men under arms to form one or two permanent camps, so that regimental, brigade and division drill would no longer be a mystery to officer and soldier alike, and even field duties could be indulged in. Were the Government to afford this occasion for active drill, we have no doubt the different States would make an effort to add ten or twenty thousand men from their National Guard each year to the force engaged in the manoeuvres. A knowledge of military life would in this way be diffused through the country; and, though imperfect, it would be far better than the absolute ignorance that necessarily existed before the rebellion. Our Government, by furnishing a small permanent camp, might perhaps induce the State Governments to supply at their own expense such further numbers of men that extended and complicated drills could be carried out. There would be a small expense, it is true, but it would purchase a great gain and in that respect be economical.

A KIND-hearted telegrapher has informed the world that there was great indignation on both sides the Rio Grande when a black flag, with a skull and cross bones complete, was discovered on the fortifications of Matamoras. He might have spared his humane feelings. People belonging to the Anglo-Saxon race only laugh at such exhibitions, knowing well they are not worth indignation. This black flag business, by the way, is perhaps of more frequent occurrence than is commonly supposed; but, so far as we know, the only respectable body of soldiers which fights under this forbidding standard is that called the Black Brunswickers. With them it commemorates the fall of a beloved leader on an historic field, but how impossible it is to continue in long ages of peace the fierce feelings of revenge that were in their proper place and time during the struggle with the country's foes! To-day the legend is known only to the few who happen to have read and remembered it. The ordinary loiterer through Europe visits the quiet, pleasant old town of Brunswick—pleasant because old and still partially immersed in the staid quietness of its past—and wonders to see a company of soldiers in lugubrious black, with a genuine “black flag,” such as he has read about, on its flag-pole. But it is wonder and laughter, not awe nor terror, that moves him. Half a dozen stolid soldiers idling under the shadow of this sombre standard are not just the objects to illustrate the ferocity it inculcates. The Black Brunswickers had better leave the skull and cross-bones to the Mexicans, as they leave tomtoms to the Chinese.

MR. BUCKLEY has introduced a bill in the House, defining the rank of officers transferred from the supernumerary list. It provides that all officers of the United States Army who were placed on the list of supernumeraries, or classed as unassigned by operation of section 2 of the act of March 3, 1869,

and were transferred into the cavalry and artillery by General Order No. 59, series of 1869, War Department, shall now be classed and deemed to have been placed on the same footing as those officers transferred from the supernumerary list into the cavalry, artillery, and infantry by section 12, of the act of July 15, 1870; and all officers transferred previous to the act of July 15, 1870, shall be considered as having been entitled to the same rank in the regiment to which they were transferred under section 12 of the act of July 15, 1870, and shall hold and enjoy such rank, with all its pay, emoluments, and promotions from the date of their original entry into the Army in the regiment where they have been transferred or assigned.

MATAMORAS is at length besieged by the Mexican revolutionists, and it remains to be seen whether the JUAREZ party have strength enough to raise the siege. Energy we do not expect from either side, nor loss of life in the “battles,” but it seems to us that after Saltillo and Piedras Negras, the JUAREZ party can hardly afford to suffer Matamoras to fall into their enemy's hands. To be unable to defend any town, however important, on the frontier, would argue a weakness so complete that it would be ridiculous to claim any sovereignty there. Still JUAREZ is never so strong as in defeat. His Indian nature seems never to be stirred until his power has apparently vanished and his pretensions seem absurd. It was as an exile that he began to make head against MAXIMILIAN. His previous efforts had been failures, but from a wretched cabin in New Mexico he went to conquest. He bears a title which is perhaps the proudest of all the citizen or subject can gain; he is the *Libertador* of his country. But when we look in his career as President for those decisive qualities which are to be expected of one who has aroused his country from sluggishness to heroic effort, we fail to find them, and are fain to believe that it was Mr. SEWARD who was the real backbone of the Mexican War of Liberation. Among his people JUAREZ has a name above other Mexicans, and the applause he receives from other nations is dully reflected in his own countrymen. But that he found a nation awake to a danger, real or fancied, that he was able to call up in the Mexicans a fear of monarchy or an ardent opposition to it, we doubt. In Mexico they say MAXIMILIAN was fairly called and sincerely wanted by the best classes of citizens to reign over the country. It is evident that Mr. SEWARD can tell an interesting tale if he will, and now that his days of politics and of travel are over, he can do no better than to make himself that much longed-for individual, the historian of the United States from 1860 to 1865.

The troops in Matamoras number 2,500 men, and the revolutionists muster in the same strength. The inhabitants have betaken themselves to Brownsville, and the bombardment has probably begun. Of course the black flag has been raised. That is inseparable from Mexican warfare. They had one in Piedras Negras; it waved over a 6-pounder, and was the pride of a very jolly-looking set of vagabonds. It is due to the Mexican character to say that it never floated over greater atrocities than rifling a few stores and bothering the rare passenger in the matter of custom-house rigors.

THE authority of the United States Government has never been more insolently defied than within the last week or two. We gave in our last issue an account of the slaughter of six United States Marshals in the Indian country—a deed which was of a piece with the lawlessness which is the rule through all that region. The Indian Territory may be considered the present abiding spot of that fierce element which is nearly always manifested in some place on our frontier. In our mining towns crime grows to such a grotesqueness that it can be talked of in the family circle, and may become the theme of poem and story. It is so far out of the sphere of ordinary mortals that it is no longer offensive to us. But the mining regions are steadily improving, and the exaggerated brutality which has marked them seems to be fairly settled in the Indian Territory. Violence there, however, we can bear patiently, sure that it is but the passing roughness incident to new regions, and that it will disappear with time. More serious, because nearer to us, and in a

civilized State, is the murder of three men in a railway train in Missouri. They were officers of the Cass County Court, and having been implicated in an attempt to issue fraudulent County bonds, they were set upon and killed. The men employed on the train have since been dismissed by the railway officials at the instigation of the mob. The clergyman who performed the last rites at the funeral of one of the murdered men, was ordered to leave the State. Others are fleeing in consequence of similar orders, or of threats, and a local “reign of terror” does apparently exist. In both cases it is to the Army or the local militia that the people must look for protection. Stronger forces have already been sent to the Indian Territory, and if the condition of Cass County is not exaggerated, the presence of soldiers will be absolutely necessary there too.

THE rumor that the British Government had arranged with Canada to declare the independence of that colony in case of war with us, thus relieving the province from any share in the dual, is proved to be untrue. The only use that has been made of it, so far as we know, is by the author of “The Invasion of Canada in 1874,” published in the *Volunteer Review of Canada*. It purports to be written in 1900, by a retired militiaman, and the author seems to have anticipated his senility, for he has produced the most idiotic of the many dreary attempts at campaigning on paper, which have followed the “Battle of Dorking.” Looking through this historian's spectacles, we should judge the Canadian militia to be made up of an unrivalled collection of Jack the Giant-Killers. The “Yankees” get an awful drubbing, and it would probably have been worse if the historian had not felt it his duty to expend a part of his space in letting the “Whig Radicals” who now govern England know whither they were tending. Since the folly of this “battle” business has now reached its extreme, we hope that the gentry who have devoted their talents to the task will suffer this effort of our contemporary to be the valedictory. It certainly is fitted to be the tail-piece to any exhibition of stupidity that can be conceived of.

THE House Committee on Pensions had the floor at the evening session of the House on Tuesday of last week, and passed a large number of pension bills, among which were the following: A bill granting a pension of fifty dollars a month to Mary A. Morris, widow of Major General William W. Morris, which is to be in lieu of the pension granted her under the general pension laws; a bill granting a pension to Abigail Chaplin, who was a widow of Joshua Snelling, Jr., late a colonel in the United States Army, to take effect from January 1, 1870; a bill granting a pension of fifty dollars a month to Caroline H. Miller, widow of James F. Miller, late a commodore in the United States Navy, which is to be in lieu of the pension she now receives; a bill granting a pension to Lorenzo D. Hoyle, late acting assistant surgeon in the Army.

Objection was made by Mr. Holman, to the pension to Mrs. Morris on the ground that it was better to conform to the rule in this case or else change the rule. Mr. Moore, who introduced the bill, explained: “The case of Mrs. Morris is a very peculiar one. Her husband served about sixty years in the Army of the United States, and died poor. One of his sons, an officer, was killed in the service; and this old lady, one of the most estimable women in this country, is entirely dependent upon her pension. She is a most elegant woman, and asks this favor at the hands of Congress; and regarding her case as exceedingly meritorious, the committee are unanimous in recommending the passage of this bill. Another case which I have here on the list is that of the widow of General Sumner, which will be reported this evening or to-morrow night for the House to act upon. These are exceptional cases, and the committee thought were very meritorious. I hope there will be no objection to the passage of this bill for the relief of Mrs. Morris.”

Bills were also passed by the House granting pensions to the widow of Colonel Wm. Whistler, the minor children of Assistant Surgeon Powers Ritchey, Lorenzo D. Hoyle late acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. Army. Privates Abraham Cooper, late First Cavalry (K) and Jas. Supple, late Eighteenth Infantry (K). Mary A. Diamond, mother of Private Diamond, late Fourteenth Infantry; also to the relatives of E. W. Bartlett, John Hedding, and John Davis, late of the Navy.

THE Senate has passed a bill authorizing the payment of one year's pay and allowances to the heirs of Captain B. R. Perkins, late of the United States Army, that being the amount he would have been entitled to had he received notice that he was honorably mustered out prior to his death.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

## A MILITARY IMPROVISATORE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The following stanzas, written by Captain and Brevet Major Theodore J. Eckerson, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, were composed at a session of the medical officers of the Retiring Board, convened at Philadelphia, Pa., April 23, 1872. The object being to test the power of concentration of thought possessed by Major Eckerson, he was requested by the Board, at a moment's notice (the subject being announced to him by the senior member), to write a brief essay or poem upon it. The time occupied was eight minutes. No particular merit is claimed for the effusion, aside from the peculiar circumstances connected with its production:

## ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR MORSE.

A mighty mind has passed from earth,  
To mingle with the glorious throng  
Of noble ones who claim their birth  
In this our land of fame and song.  
Our Franklin, who the lightning drew—  
Our Fulton, fair Columbia's pride—  
Will, with our Morse, their youth renew,  
And view their triumphs side by side!

Oh, hearts that love though seas divide!  
Oh, nations wrapped in slavery's gloom!  
No more the dreary ocean-side  
Can stop your throbs, prolong your doom;  
The lightning-flash that erst with dread  
Inspired each heart, at last appears  
To flash a blessing on each head—  
A boon from heaven, to calm our fears!

Sleep well, oh, casket of a mind  
Too mighty for the earth to hold—  
Sleep well! Thy name is left behind  
Written in characters of gold.  
And, when the last dread trump shall sound,  
And all the dead in Christ arise,  
That name shall on the roll be found,  
Great victor—for the highest prize!

## LINEAL PROMOTION FOR SUBALTERNS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: We have seen in your issue of the 20th instant a communication signed "Tex." We have read through this article from the pen of this well-informed, "thoughtful" veteran who signs himself "Tex."

If not considered "brazen" effrontery, we ask permission to answer friend "Tex" in a modest way.

We base our "memorial" upon the justice of the proposed plan of promotion. No clearer showing up of any existing injustice can be made than that contained in appendix "A" of the memorial. This is a statement of facts addressed to the interested many which cannot be controverted or made more evident by any manner of "specious pleas." The plan proposed would equalize promotions, and justly give to every one his merited due. It would set aside a special manner of promoting now only imposed upon an excepted few of the Army. The general manner of promoting which it aims to introduce would equalize the burdens and honors of the service.

No just reason is assigned, or can be, for making promotions unlike for two classes of officers in the same arm of the service. In this connection the question naturally arises, Does the promotion of captains under the present law injure the *esprit de corps* of their respective regimental organizations? Does the knowledge that they will eventually be promoted out of their regiments render them any the less efficient and energetic in the discharge of their official duties? Or is it contended by "Tex" that captains are merely figureheads, less useful than ornamental, and that to us subalterns all the honor and credit of regimental attachment, discipline, and worth is due?

Our proposed plan does not necessarily extend to the New Yorker or Hudson River youth every benefit of the casualties arising from the exposure to disease; some officer who served in the face of the enemy or was subject to the same epidemical exposure in another portion of our country, and in another regiment, may just as likely gain the vacancies occurring as a non-combatant or Broadway promenade. We are all liable to fatiguing and exposed duties, and occasionally a smell of the salt water of New York harbor greets our nostrils. The Eighth Infantry served a term in the South. We don't envy them now—if they like it—because they are cooped up at David's Island, nor do we think if the ranking first lieutenant of the infantry arm wore a figure 8 or 1 on his cap he would be any the less entitled to a vacancy occurring anywhere in the South, Arizona, or Washington Territory, because he happened to have occasionally dined at Delmonico's or eaten white-fish from the lakes.

The "memorial" was conceived and moulded into shape by officers appointed from the Volunteer Army—men who commanded divisions, brigades, and regiments during the late war. Their idea in connection with this matter was formed under the belief that the plan proposed in our petition would assign the youthful aspirant from the Hudson and from the ranks of civil life to his proper place.

A former colonel, now a first lieutenant, contended that, by the operation of the present law, he has been distanced by these same non-combatants during the war in several instances, though his service in this time of peace has been severer in exposure to disease and the dangers of actual conflict ten-fold than theirs. The whole matter resolves itself into this: The promotions under the present law are neither just nor equal to all concerned. In reason or right there exists no cause why a lieutenant appointed from the Volunteer service on July 28, 1866, should be promoted over an equally deserving officer appointed as he was, February, 23, 1866,

or over an officer who served with credit in the Regular Army from 1862, '63, or '64. Nor, as it has happened, does justice name the promotion of West Point graduates of 1865, '66, '67, '68, and '69 over the graduates of 1863 and '64, the volunteer appointments of 1866 and '67, or those worthy officers who are promoted from the Army itself after a lifetime almost of exposure to "war, pestilence, and famine," in every portion of our vast possessions. By our plan every one knows what to expect, and would realize his expectations in the reward merited by him without detriment or "heart-burning" to any one.

The very instances of promotion cited by the memorialists have awakened in many, originally the seniors in rank of the fortunate ones, the very heartburning and bitterness of soul so deplored by your correspondent as likely to happen under the new regime. We concede that no such radical change as proposed could take place without a seeming injury to some. Yet the change, if wrought, would speedily arrange itself, and the benefits at large are so manifest that the plan proposed could not but be acceptable in every sense of the word, for the sake of justice and equity alone. Yes, "seven" lieutenants, at least, would be almost immediately benefited, and some few of the 28th July, 1866, appointments would be, as it were, temporarily injured. Standing as some do at the head of the roster of their grade in their regiments, they calculate upon some uncertain casualty to gain them a captaincy. Admit the eighteen casualties yearly among the captains. Friend "Tex" gives more endurance to the lieutenants, ignores any casualties among this grade in his calculations up to "1882." We reckon a little differently, and make a more satisfactory showing for disappointed No. 180 or 190.

We assume nothing for any one, "big or little." We ask "both great and small" to sign a petition we have sent forth, and which we hope has reached the place of residence, the eyesight, and sense of every officer of the Army. We are modest. We ask the officers of the Army to endorse our petition, or so much as may meet their views. Is there anything so "brazen" in this address and request to our comrades in arms? We hope the able reviewing pen of "Tex" will be pointed with more charity in future.

The table of instances of promotion is made up and sets forth examples for each arm of the service only, and no comparisons are entered into out of the one particular arm of the service, so the "little circumstances" couldn't have been "mentioned," because never admitted nor written. This matter does concern "the others," all officers of the service. There are many who have suffered for years under the injustice of the present law, and are now juniors to those comparatively new in the service, though the former are gray veterans of more than one war or two epidemics. We are yet strong in our faith, though we have read "Tex's" letter.

## SUBALTERN.

[We have another communication on this subject in type which must lie over until another week.—ED. JOURNAL.]

## SOLDIERS' HOMESTEADS.

[From the Washington Correspondent of N. Y. Times.]

THE recent passage of the Soldiers' Homestead bill has produced a demand from thousands of the veterans of the war for information concerning the location, extent and character of the public lands subject to the provisions of the law, and that information it is the aim of this letter, as far as possible, to supply.

The main provision, and most important, of the law is that which provides that instead of the five years' actual residence that was required under the previous law before a title could be given, the time any soldier was in the service is to be deducted from that time, and the residence required is made so much the shorter as a soldier was in the army. Thus, a soldier who served three years will have to remain upon his land but two years to secure a patent; he who served two years only three; and he who served one year four, and so on.

There is another provision, which was intended to give to soldiers the right to enter lands through some other person acting for them, which would save to such as might find such agency convenient a personal location and entry of the lands they might desire, but this is a doubtful advantage, and, from present appearances, more likely to be taken advantage of by speculators to lock up lands than by honest soldiers desiring to settle on homesteads. The amount of lands subject to the provisions of this new law are enormous, as will be seen by reference to the tabulated statement for the different States, which will be found below. The extent which is really available for present or early settlement is much more limited, because many of the lands are too remote from settlements and too inaccessible to be suitable for homestead pre-emption for several years to come. If readers not familiar with the geography of the Western States and Territories, (and very few persons have definite knowledge of it), will, as they read, have before them any recently published map of the United States, the information contained in the following statements will be rendered much more definite than otherwise.

The approximate area of public land in the States and Territories remaining undisposed of, is as follows:

States and Territories	Acres.	States and Territories	Acres.
Missouri.....	100,000	Kansas.....	39,000,000
Alabama.....	5,000,000	Nevada.....	67,000,000
Mississippi.....	4,000,000	Nebraska.....	37,000,000
Louisiana.....	6,000,000	Washington Territory.....	40,000,000
Michigan.....	3,000,000	New Mexico.....	70,000,000
Arkansas.....	10,000,000	Utah.....	48,000,000
Florida.....	17,000,000	Dakota Territory.....	90,000,000
Iowa.....	1,000,000	Colorado Territory.....	62,000,000
Wisconsin.....	7,000,000	Montana Territory.....	86,000,000
California.....	35,000,000	Arizona Territory.....	68,000,000
Minnesota.....	32,000,000	Idaho Territory.....	52,000,000
Oregon.....	50,000,000	Wyoming Territory.....	59,000,000

Persons who are not entitled to the provisions of the Homestead Act, April 4, 1872, can only acquire eighty acres in the States of Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Florida, or within the granted limits of the several land-grants to railroads, while those who are en-

titled to its provisions may secure 160 acres within those States and railroad limits, as well as upon any other portion of the unappropriated public domain.

The most important of the land districts, embracing all those in the principal land States, with the location of the land office in each, is included in the following list:

Arkansas—Little Rock, Camden, Harrison, Dardanelle.  
Iowa—Fort Des Moines, Council Bluffs, Fort Dodge, Sioux City.  
Wisconsin—Menasha, Falls of St. Croix, Stevens Point, La Crosse, Bayfield, Eau Claire.  
Missouri—Booneville, Ironton, Springfield.  
Oregon—Oregon City, Roseburg, Le Grand, Linkville.

Kansas—Topeka, Salina, Independence, Wichita, Concordia.

California—Shasta, San Francisco, Marysville, Humboldt, Stockton, Visalia, Sacramento, Los Angeles, Susanville.

Nevada—Carson City, Austin, Belmont, Aurora, Elko.  
Nebraska—West Point, Beatrice, Lincoln, Dakota City, Grand Island.

New Mexico Territory—Santa Fé.

Dakota Territory—Vermilion, Springfield, Pembina.  
Washington Territory—Walla Walla, Olympia, Vancouver.

Minnesota—Taylor's Falls, St. Cloud, Duluth, Alexandria, Jackson, New Elm, Litchfield, Oak Lake.

Colorado Territory—Denver City, Fair Play, Central City, Pueblo.

Idaho Territory—Boise City, Lewiston.

Montana Territory—Helena.

Arizona Territory—Prescott.

Utah Territory—Salt Lake City.

The manner of making the location and entry is not charged for soldiers, and, under the provisions of the General Homestead Law, the usual application and proofs will be required at the local land office of the district in which the homestead is selected.

The eastern part of Kansas and Nebraska has nearly all been taken up by actual settlers or by purchasers by private entry.

The southern part of Kansas, east of the one hundredth degree of longitude west from Greenwich, is occupied by the Cherokee neutral lands, already sold, and the Osage lands, subject to sale to actual settlers only under the act of July 15, 1870.

At present the most desirable lands in Kansas, subject to the operations of the late law, are to be found in the valleys of the Solomon's, Grand Saline, Smoky Hill, Walnut and Arkansas rivers and their small affluents, and along the line of the Kansas Pacific Railroad. In Nebraska it is believed that the best unappropriated land will be found along the Union Pacific Railroad west of Grand Island, in the valley of the Platte river, and in the valley of the Republican river, in the southwest, on Wolf river, in the interior, and on the Rapid river, in the northern section of the State. The western part of Kansas and Nebraska is chiefly suitable for grazing purposes, the land being mostly prairie.

In Minnesota the public land subject to the operation of the late act is to be found in the western part of the State, and within and north of the limits of the grant to the Northern Pacific Railroad. About all the land in this State, within and south of the limits of the grant referred to, have been surveyed, and is now open to settlement.

Owing to the rigorous climate of the northern section of this State, the surveys have not been extended in that section, and but few settlements exist, except along the Red river of the north. The southeastern section of the State was the first section settled, and all the desirable land in that region has long since been appropriated.

In Dakota the principal settlements exist in the southern part of the Territory, and along the eastern border, extending to the Pembina region on the international boundary. Nearly the whole area of Dakota consists of elevated and undulating prairie. The timber lands consist generally of narrow belts along the rivers and small water-courses. Settlements in this and all other prairie regions, will be made with due regard to proximity to timber for fuel and building purposes.

In Montana the most desirable localities for settlement will be found in the western section of the Territory, in the valleys of the Gallatin, Jefferson, Missouri, Wisdom, Blackfoot, and Hell Gate rivers. This section of the Territory is mountainous, so that the desirable lands for settlement are confined to the mountain valleys and foot hills. The public surveys are confined to this part of Montana.

No settlement have as yet been made in the eastern part of the Territory. In Wyoming the public surveys are confined to the line of Union Pacific Railroad, along which all the settlements that have been made in the Territory are to be found.

In Colorado the most desirable localities for settlement will be found along the eastern base of the mountains, and in the valley of the Arkansas River, in the southern section of the Territory.

Some desirable tracts for grazing purposes may be found along the Kansas Pacific Railroad.

The southern section of this Territory will be opened up by the construction of the Denver and Santa Fé Narrow-gauge Railroad during the next year.

The greater portion of the lands in Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Utah require to be irrigated before they can be devoted profitably to the production of grain, fruits or vegetables. Those contemplating settlement in those localities should therefore form colonies of such numbers that they may be enabled at once to inaugurate a system of irrigation.

Although irrigation in any locality is attended with considerable expense, it is generally more than compensated for by the extent and certainty of the crop produced. Irrigation is not, therefore, the great objection to a region that is popularly supposed.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company examine each forty acres of land within the limits of their grant, including the Government sections as well as those



granted to the company, as fast as surveyed by the Government, with a view to ascertaining the quality of the soil, value and amount of timber, and adaptability of tract for agriculture or grazing purposes. The notes of those examinations are systematically arranged, so that the agents of that Company may be enabled to give persons seeking to purchase lands of the Company, or settle upon the reserved sections belonging to the United States, such information as will enable them to select desirable tracts without being at the expense of going into the field themselves to make explorations.

It is believed that the great mass of the immigration which will be induced by the provision of the late law will be to Western Kansas and Nebraska, Southern Colorado, Western and Central Minnesota, Southern and Eastern Dakota, Western Montana and the Puget Sound section of Washington Territory.

#### GENERAL SHERMAN IN EGYPT.

(Correspondence of the New York Herald.)

ALEXANDRIA, March 31, 1872.

VICEREGAL orders had been given to receive General Sherman and his distinguished accompaniments with royal honors such as are usually accorded to visitors of the very highest rank in Egypt. Considerable disappointment was manifested, therefore, when it became known that the General had written to his old friend and comrade in arms, General Stone, of the Egyptian service, that he would be obliged to him for quarters while in Egypt, and to further see that no formal preparations were made to distinguish himself and friends from the usual run of travellers.

General Sherman, Lieutenant Grant, and Colonel Audenreid arrived on the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Ceylon* the 15th ultimo, and were met in the harbor by General Stone and the Vice-Consul of the United States. The parties were driven to the Hotel d'Europe, and after a few days' sight-seeing took train for Cairo, where the General and his aides were presented to his Highness the Khedive by the American Consul-General.

Arrangements were made for the General and party to visit the Khedive's sugar works at Roda, Minieh-Feshn, and other points on the Nile between Cairo and Thebes. A special train being strenuously declined, the republican guests placed themselves in the cars at the usual hour of departure, half-past nine A. M., and found themselves the only passengers. This was accounted for by the fact that travel is very dull at this season. At noon an invitation to step into the rear car and take lunch revealed the curious fact that by some accident the Khedive's kitchen car—with *salon* carriage and full *batterie de cuisine*, with staff of cooks—had got coupled on the train by some stupidity of the station-master—ordinarily a most careful man—and the General found himself seated luxuriously before a gorgeous "spread." Stopping over night at a village called Benisoux, it was discovered that one of the Viceroy's steamers, a private yacht, had arrived there in the morning, and, as she was comfortably, not to say superbly, fitted up, the party were informed by the Khedive's officer, his Excellency Betts Bey, that they might as well sleep on board as remain in a noisy mud village, filled with fleas, crying children, and barking dogs. These curious coincidences kept continually occurring the whole trip, even to the extent of fine English thoroughbred saddle horses to ride to the tombs of Beni-Hassan.

Upon the return from the sugar inspection the Khedive gave a state breakfast to General Sherman, Lieutenant Grant, Colonel Audenreid, Consul-General Butler, General Stone, General Starring. There were present also Barrat Bey, his Highness' private secretary, and Reis Pacha, keeper of the seals. The affair lasted five hours, and in the course of the conversation his Highness evinced an unusual knowledge of General Sherman's military history and campaigns. He had probably "boned up" for it.

General Sherman's wish to see the opera of "Aida" was promptly gratified by the Khedive, upon hearing it, by sending down and ordering its immediate representation, and placing three boxes at the disposal of the visitors.

On different occasions subsequently there were fine military reviews of the crack native troops, and General Sherman pronounced the opinion that they compared favorably with the old First Infantry of the Regular United States Army. To that famous organization General Aleck Reynolds, now of the Egyptian service, once belonged, and was its efficient adjutant. The old veteran was immensely elated when he heard this opinion from the Commander-in-Chief of the American armies. (I say "armies," although we have but one army, and that a very small one, but I am writing in a foreign land, and must patriotically effervesce.)

This correspondent subsequently interviewed General Sherman with the following result:

General Sherman—Well, you *Herald* fellows beat the devil! You catch us sitting and take us flying, and you belt the globe. Have a cigar. It is a bad one. Colonel Audenreid bought 'em.

Correspondent—Thank you, General. How do you like Egypt?

General Sherman—Oh, immensely, of course. A man is bound to like a country where everybody is so polite to him. But, aside from that, it's the greatest little country in the world. Fancy a narrow belt of arable land along the river bank for about 1,200 miles making all this stir in the world. There are about 5,000,000 acres of arable land in Egypt and about 4,000,000 people, and by the Khedive's management they take rank as a second class power. It is a fortunate thing for the Turkish Porte to possess such a powerful dependency as Egypt. Why at home we have the Rio Grande running along 2,000 miles, with a fringe of fertile land about like that of the Nile valley, and we think the Rio Grande land hardly worth talking about.

Correspondent—How are you impressed with the antiquities and tombs of Egypt, General?

General Sherman—Never did care much about tombs. Intend to keep out of my own as long as I can, and do not want to get into other people's. The antiquities,

however, are grand, and very large, and all that sort of thing, but—what good? I was very much pleased, though, with the Khedive's sugar mills.

Correspondent—Do you think, General, that the extraordinary efforts the Khedive is making to promote the cultivation of sugar will ever affect, even in the far future, the sugar interest in our country?

General Sherman—No, sir (emphatically). The Khedive cannot make enough sugar to supply Italy and the Levant, and of course we could not compete with him at that distance. The Khedive has ten mills going already, and they ought to turn out 800,000,000 pounds a year, if he can feed the cane rapidly enough. That he will do when he finishes the railroads through his vast fields. He has fine machinery, but for effective and economical results I think we beat him. He sells his sugar at 7½ a pound at the mill. We can do better than that in Louisiana and in Cuba.

Correspondent—You speak, General, as though Cuba were already ours.

General Sherman—Well, I'm no filibuster, but I can't resist the logic of events. We don't want trouble with Spain, nor with any other nation, for the matter of that; but as a matter of right the interests of the people of Cuba should be consulted, and they want a close commercial alliance with the people of the United States, who can purchase all their produce.

Correspondent—You have read the English press on the indirect claims. What do you think of that question?

General Sherman—I think the English people never knew how much they were wronged until the English politicians, and the papers, prompted by the politicians, told them they were injured and insulted. Certainly we never thought we were advancing any very novel or startling claims. At all events, the Geneva reference is the proper place to settle the whole matter. We don't want their money. As they have already admitted, they did us a grievous wrong. British neutrality during our civil war was a fiction and a fraud. I have myself taken off from packages of ammunition run in from Nassau English marks and labels, proving indisputably that they came from British sources. In fact (here the General called his aide-de-camp, Colonel Audenreid)—you remember, Audenreid, that on the railway platform in Columbia, S. C., I found four Armstrong guns, made in England—none of the kind ever made in America—and each of these superb weapons bore a plate inscribed, "Presented by the manufacturers to the sovereign State of South Carolina!" The General of the Army made this last remark with a humorous twinkle of the eyes, which ended in a pleasant laugh when he came to "the sovereign State of South Carolina." "I told my artillery officers to take these 'neutrality' guns and make them serve the uses of honest men, which I suppose they did thereafter, as some of my best artillery officers were glad to get such artistic tools."

Correspondent—You are to be the guest of the Sultan in Constantinople, I hear?

General Sherman—So am I informed by Mr. Brown, the Secretary of Legation there, but I intend to decline. I prefer to go in my own way, and pay my own expenses, and for that reason have accepted no favors anywhere, if they could be avoided. Of course, the general desire to compliment the United States in the persons of its officials, and the courtesies usual among military men all over the world, make it impossible to refuse all attentions without appearing churlish and inane.

Correspondent—You visited the Suez Canal, General? What do you think of it?

General Sherman—It would take a long time to say all I think of it. It is one of the greatest and most laudable achievements of a century which has achieved nearly all that is great and useful in the arts and sciences. The world owes a large debt of gratitude to Lesseps, the projector, and the Khedive, who assisted him to carry through his conception. The canal, though, is too vast an enterprise to be handled by the ordinary machinery of a mere stock company, and its influence upon the commerce of the world too great to be subjected to the fallibility and weaknesses of a small body of men. The commercial nations of the earth should make appropriations yearly, if necessary, to keep the Suez Canal in repair. England, the United States, France, and Italy, are all sufficiently interested in this work to make the question of ordinary expense no object. The bearings of the Suez Canal on the affairs of the world, politically and commercially, are destined to be very great.

In the investigations by the Second Auditor's office it was long since discovered that disbursing officers had been imposed upon by the use of forged soldiers' "discharge certificates," and that claims had been presented even to the department, based upon these forged certificates. A vigorous investigation soon resulted in checking the theft of Government blanks, and in breaking up a gang of counterfeiters engaged in printing and filling up discharge certificates. In February last it was discovered that parties were engaged in attempts to defraud by using genuine soldiers' discharge certificates, after erasing carefully the name of the true soldier, and inserting another one. The attempt seems a bungling one; but to check at once this practice, and make an example of the persons engaged, a case, after due investigation, was given to the United States attorney at New Orleans for prosecution. The district attorney now reports that three parties have been apprehended, and the principal, a claim agent of New Orleans, indicted.

GENERAL Butler has been before the House Military Committee in reference to the management of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, of which he is both President and Treasurer. He replied to statements which he said he understood Mr. Farnsworth had made to the committee prejudicial to the institution and himself, and produced statements showing that the cost of supporting the inmates at four asylums was less than 50 cents a day per man, and if interest on the cost of buildings and grounds was added, only about

60 cents. He said that the Board of Managers had administered a fund of over \$400,000 for the benefit of the soldiers without the loss of a single dollar, and that they had received no pay for their services. The affairs of the institution come up at this time on a resolution to fill three vacancies upon the Board of Managers, caused by the expiration of the six years' term of Gen. Butler and two other managers. Mr. Farnsworth argued that Butler ought not to be elected, and that the law ought to be restored which prohibited the election of members of Congress as managers, and which was repealed after Butler came to Congress to enable him to retain his position as President of the Board. Mr. Farnsworth also reviewed the charges he made against Butler when the affairs of the asylum were investigated in the last Congress.

It is understood that the House Committee on the militia are not disposed to report Mr. Sheldon's bill, providing that one-half of the annual appropriations for arms shall be extended in purchasing guns from the private factories of the country. Many of the leading arms manufacturers have appeared before the Committee to urge the adoption of this measure. Their argument is, in brief, that it is for the interest of the Government to sustain extensive arms-manufacturing establishments in time of peace, in order that, in case of war, it may have these establishments to depend upon, in addition to its own armories, thus greatly increasing its resources. To show the importance of such a course, they cite the embarrassments of the last war, during the first two years of which it was impossible for the Government to procure good arms, and it was obliged to equip a large portion of its troops with inferior weapons, purchased in Europe at high prices. The arms-makers say that with even a small regular annual order from the Government they could keep their establishments in good order, and be encouraged to develop new improvements.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Commercial Advertiser* says: "The recent amendment to the United States Homestead Laws, granting extra privileges to the soldiers and sailors, seems to be misunderstood by many of those for whose benefit it was intended; and this misunderstanding, if not corrected, may expose those poor but brave defenders of our country to the wiles of sharpers, who, under false pretences, will obtain their money, and by so doing defeat perhaps the human intentions of the law. The general opinion that an agent can hold a land claim until the title is perfected, is incorrect, as the law explicitly states that such agent can only hold the land for six months, and that at the expiration of that time the soldier or sailor must enter upon personal possession, and there remain for the full period of one year in order to secure a title. The same rule applies to the widows of those who died in the service, or from wounds or disease contracted therein; but their orphan children can have a guardian appointed who can hold the land until they become of age. While it is much to be regretted that the law requires those who have served their country to pay the same fee and commission of thirty-two dollars for one hundred and sixty acres of land in the far West that is demanded of those who staid at home and desired to enjoy the same privileges, those fees must be paid before any entry can be made."

In an article on the Austrian Landwehr, the *Allgemeine Zeitung* observes that the condition of this force is very different in the two divisions of the empire. In Hungary the landwehr organization is almost complete; in Western Austria it has scarcely existence except on paper. Last year the Hungarian honveds manoeuvred in large bodies together with divisions of the regular army, and gave proofs of their tactical knowledge and general military efficiency which excited great admiration in some foreign officers who witnessed the manoeuvres. It was feared that the honveds would become either a revolutionary force or one acting with specially Hungarian objects. Neither of these forebodings has been realized; the honveds are at least as Imperialist as the standing army, and they have not shown the smallest sign of a wish to take part in the political struggles which are now agitating the country.

THERE are a multitude of claims for compensation for property damaged or taken for use of the Army, during the Rebellion, in the States which remained in the Union, and especially in Maryland, West Virginia, and Kentucky, which have been pressed upon Congress since the war ended; but thus far with small success. The further we get from the war, however, the more do the chances for the payment of these claims improve, for they pass out of the hands of the first owners, and come into the possession of men who are skilled in the ways of the lobby, and can make strong combinations to carry their ends.

THE Commissioner of Pensions proposes to detect fraudulent claims for pensions heretofore granted by publishing in each county alphabetical lists of all persons to whom pensions have been or may be granted, giving the residence, etc., of such pensioner, and to furnish a copy thereof to each Federal and State officer of the county. This, he believes, would result in saving millions of dollars annually to the Government.

THE Secretary of War has transmitted to Congress a statement of the number of colored soldiers enlisted during the war, their previous condition, and the amount of money required to pay the enlisted slaves' bounty. The total number enlisted was 178,975, of which 144,436 were slaves. The Secretary states that in case the bill now pending before the Senate Military Committee passes, two million dollars will be required to pay the bounty allowed.

FACTS FOR THE LADIES.—Louisa Kelley, Ackworth, Ga., has, with the general use of a Wheeler & Wilson Lock-Stitch Sewing Machine, for three years supported a family of four adults and two children, built and paid for a house, and has \$100 cash on hand. See the new Improvements and Wood's Lock-Stitch Ripper.



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**THE SEVENTH ON THE SQUARE.**—The Seventh Infantry virtually closed its season of drill by assembling on Thursday afternoon of last week at Tompkins Square for battalion movements. The flattering but nevertheless entirely just report of the former drill of the regiment which we gave in a late number of the JOURNAL had the effect of drawing out an unusually large and critical assemblage of spectators, who, during the hour and a half drill, lingered patiently, watching and commenting upon the movements until the close. The day was unseasonably warm, burning sun-rays pouring down unmercifully on the bare and unshaded grounds. This, together with the dusty condition of the grounds and the want of practice in many of the movements undertaken, affected visibly the steadiness of the men and the smoothness of the executions so conspicuous in the former drill of the regiment on these grounds, and in those by wing held in the armory during the past winter. The regiment likewise at this parade fell off in strength at least ten per cent., and in many respects failed to come up to its usual standard of excellence. The regiment made its appearance on the grounds about 5 o'clock, entering, as at the previous drill, in column of fours, without sound of drum or martial music. Colonel Clark was in command and well mounted; his assistants of the field, however, as formerly, were on foot (par. 18, Upton). The regiment lost no time in ceremony, but on reaching the centre of the grounds commenced drilling, performing the remainder of the movements of the school of the battalion from where it had stopped at the last drill, as follows:

To close the column on the rearmost company (1,280); to form division (1,301); to take distance (1,297); to break from column of division into column by company (1,318); to form division (1,311); to close column in mass (1,280); to march in column in mass (1,167); to change direction on the march (1,178); the same at halt (1,189); to march in column of fours from close column by division (1,159); to advance by the flank of companies (1,350); to reform the line (1,357); to play the battalion into double column at half distance (1,230); to form square (1,367); to reduce square (1,391); deployment of double column to right or left (1,249); oblique square (1,377); square forward on the centre (1,382); deployment of double column to the front (1,243); to form the battalion from double ranks into single ranks (1,412); to form double ranks (1,443); battalion in column in double ranks, to form single rank (1,424); to form double ranks (1,454); column of fours into line, by two movements (992); column at full distance into line of battle, in two movements (1,113); to pass defile in retreat (1,324).

The execution of these movements generally was beyond the usual standard of the majority of the regiments of the National Guard, but not in our estimation equal to the former efforts of the regiment, perhaps for the reasons above stated. It was evident throughout the drill that the men had lost much of their characteristic spirit, and felt in themselves that the drill was not one of the best for a regiment with so enviable a reputation. It seems strange perhaps that we should lavish so much praise on one drill, and two weeks later be forced to condemn to some extent the same body of troops drilling on the same ground. But the difference between these two drills was very marked. The first was the most notable in general excellence ever held on these grounds, and in steadiness almost equal to those of the cadets at West Point. If, therefore, any who read of that drill only, and came on the ground last week to witness a confirmation of what we said, they were perhaps disappointed; in fact, inclined to feel that our comments on the former drill were overdrawn. But we assure them that the difference between the drills was manifest almost from the outset. When we say this, let us not be understood as implying that the drill was a poor one, for it was not by any means, its inferiority being conspicuous only as compared with the former drill on the same grounds. There was that promptitude and *esprit de corps* which have at all times characterized this command, but at the same time the usual complete steadiness of the regiment was absent on this occasion.

This drill of the Seventh, as usual, we must confess, had many commendable points, and many of the above stated executions were very handsomely performed, taking for instance the square formation, and a number of other difficult movements not generally performed by the regiments of the National Guard. Yet several of the companies of the regiment violated paragraph 1,111, Upton, in executing "left front into line face to the rear," by wheeling about before halting. "Forward on the centre, form square," was very handsomely done, and we think firing by front might have been introduced with excellent advantage and effect. In reducing one of these square formations the commandants of the fourth and fifth divisions did not dress to the left as prescribed. In the execution of double column at half distance the lieutenant-colonel instructed the commandant of the First division? to dress by the left (paragraph 1,238, Upton). The dismounted field officers whenever the regiment came into line assumed positions in front of the battalion line (paragraphs 15 and 16, Upton), although we presume at a drill of this character assistants to the colonel are generally allowed to take any position, or wherever they can lend the most serviceable aid. In the turnings, the files on the side opposite the guide were too eager apparently to come into line quickly, instead of the steady double time being kept by all until arriving in succession on the line. In this same movement the left hands were not all brought to the height of the hips. We observed in some of the changes of direction in column by compa-

ny that the wheels were made on too short a radius, the pivot men marking time instead of taking steps of nine inches (Company H, at the head of the column, was one guilty of this fault). The inevitable consequence of this was that the pivot was blocked. In marching in column closed in mass, and wheeling by battalion, the guides in rear should have been more careful to gain ground to the marching flank, so as to recover the trace as soon as possible. In the squares, if we remember correctly, the bayonets were not fixed at all, and the battalion not brought to the charge. There were perhaps many other errors of this nature observed by the critical assemblage present, but we have noted the most prominent. It becomes a difficult matter to criticize a battalion drill on grounds of this nature, especially when the line of spectators is necessarily so far distant most of the time from the regiment. The regiment, however, despite every drawback, did better than the majority of the regiments thus far observed by us, but in this, its last drill, failed entirely to equal any of its former drills this season, and fell very far behind its first exhibition on these grounds some two weeks since. As heretofore asserted, in our opinion, that drill was beyond comparison, and almost beyond criticism.

**FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.**—The proceedings, findings, and sentences of the brigade Court-martial for the trial of delinquencies and deficiencies of officers in this brigade, convened by G. O. Nos. 2 and 3, c. s., from brigade headquarters, and of which Colonel John Ward, commanding Twelfth Infantry, is president, in the cases of the following officers fined and excused, are approved by Brigadier-General Ward:

First Cavalry, fined—Captain Thomas Daw, \$5; First Lieutenants George Dellert, \$15; Walter Murray, \$40; Geo. Ridderhoff, \$30; Second Lieutenants John H. Cordes, \$10; Peter Cronie, \$60; Henry Brockhausen, \$30; John G. Ebbe, \$10; Michael Gounoud, \$75; Henry Crome, \$20; Frederick Heimbuech, \$30; John Becker, \$20; Jacob Kohlen, \$20. Excused—Captains Nicholas Bremer, Henry M. Collyer, John H. Lutjen, First Lieutenants Albert Schaaf, Wm. H. Conradi, Christ. Hachmeister, Second Lieutenants Adam Becker, John Deering.

Twelfth Infantry, fined—Captain George A. Banta, \$5; Second Lieutenant Thomas Carroll, \$5. Excused—First Lieutenant John E. Walker.

Twenty-second Infantry, fined—Captains Morris Duckworth, \$5; D. Van Schaick, \$15; First Lieutenant John H. Horsfall, \$20; Second Lieutenant A. B. Carpenter, \$15. Excused—Captains Geo. J. Clan Ranald, R. Kelley Styles, First Lieutenants Samuel M. Smith, Charles Topping, Joseph W. Congdon, Charles Gamble.

Sixty-ninth Infantry, fined—Captains Michael Brennan, \$15; Daniel R. Lyddy, \$15; Quartermaster John Stacom, \$25; Second Lieutenants Joseph Allen, \$15; James Reid, \$40; Dennis Dempsey, \$10; John Morris, \$5. Excused—Captains Jerome J. Collins, John Kerr, Dennis Brown, First Lieutenant Daniel Draddy.

Seventy-first Infantry, fined—Second Lieutenants William C. Dow, \$5; John C. Rue, \$5. Excused—Captains Abm. L. Webber, William H. Cox, First Lieutenant Henry K. White, Second Lieutenants Chas. E. Brown, Martin L. Vantine.

Seventy-ninth Infantry, fined—Captain Joseph Ross, \$5; Second Lieutenants William R. Allen, \$5; Edward H. Dearin, \$5. Excused—Second Lieutenant Allen S. McDonald.

The proceedings, findings, and sentence in the case of Second Lieutenant William H. Kirby, Twelfth Infantry, are approved; but for the interests of the service the fine imposed is remitted.

**TWELFTH INFANTRY.**—This command will parade for battalion drill at the State Arsenal, in full dress uniform (plume and white gloves) on the evening of May 9. Assembly at 8 o'clock P. M. Tickets of admission for friends can be obtained by members of the regiment on application to their respective commandants. The following elections are announced: Henry O. Storms, second lieutenant, Company I, November 28, 1871, vice Schwalbe, promoted; William Fanning, Jr., second lieutenant, Company C, April 15, 1872, vice Canter, resigned. The drills of the recruit class will close for the season after April 30. Lieutenants Burns and Sprague deserve the thanks of the commandant for the able manner in which they have discharged their duties as the instructors of this class, the result of their labors being eminently gratifying. The commandant announces with regret the death of Drum-Major Cornelius Evans, who expired on the 28th of April. The regiment loses a faithful officer, and the drum corps a most efficient instructor, by his untimely decease.

At a special meeting of Company G, Twelfth Infantry, N. G. S. N. Y., held at the regimental armory on Tuesday evening, April 30, 1872, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, We have learned with deep regret the sudden demise of Cornelius Evans, drum-major Twelfth regiment, and late honorary member of this company, whereby we have lost a most worthy comrade and associate, one who was endeared to us all by his true manliness of character, strict attention to duty, and whose eminent soldierly qualifications commanded the respect of all who knew him. Therefore be it

Resolved, That while we sincerely mourn his loss, we tender to the widow of deceased our most heartfelt sympathy and condolence, and trust that our Heavenly Father may strengthen and sustain her in this the hour of her great affliction.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect for the memory of de-

ceased, the roll-case be draped, and that the company wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be suitably engrossed and presented to the widow of deceased.

In the death of Drum-Major Evans the Twelfth loses a young and faithful non-commissioned officer, who while in charge of its corps maintained manifest discipline and efficiency, and placed it in its present enviable position among the drum corps of the National Guard. The contagious nature of the disease of which he died forbid (by injunctions of the Health Board), the military honor suitable to his rank. The regiment therefore did the next best thing, by subscribing most liberally to the needs of his indigent wife and family, the sum of \$200 being contributed during the past week. The Drum-Majors' Association likewise contributed a goodly sum, and at least \$500 will be collected in the course of the next week for the support of the family of the lamented and greatly esteemed soldier.

**FIFTH INFANTRY.**—The Fifth's civilian commander last week was placed on his first military trial, and proved himself equal, in a remarkable degree, to the occasion. The announcement that Colonel "Charlie" Spencer would assume command was the means of assembling a large audience at the arsenal; in fact, the building has seldom been more crowded, and the manifest curiosity and interest in the scene were really remarkable. The regiment looked exceedingly neat in appearance; shoulder scales, etc., well polished, the members wide-awake, and appearing to have rekindled some of the old enthusiasm of the Fifth. The regiment was equalized to twelve files, but through some inaccuracy either of counting or reporting by the first sergeants, or of computation on the part of the adjutant, some of the companies had a greater number. The adjutant should have detected these. The helmet gives to its wearer a very distinctive martial air; but the members of the Fifth, although naturally attached to this style of head-gear, say that its polished and brass-mounted surface attracts a great deal of heat. The officers no longer wear the plume on the spike, which is an improvement. Colonel Spencer, to the astonishment of the audience, who expected that he would with difficulty enunciate a few routine commands, put the regiment through several movements, wheeling by fours and by company; breaking from the right to march to the left by fours and by company; advancing and retreating in line; and a general alignment. His commands were nearly all correct, and were excellently delivered in a clear, loud tone. He was occasionally prompted, as was justifiable under the circumstances, by General Bendix. "Some faults, as that of not waiting for the alignments of one movement before proceeding to another, will be corrected by experience, study, and especially by watching the drills of good regiments—a practice "Charlie" adopted as soon as commissioned. The execution of the movements was not by any means equal to the Fifth of Burger's time, but was very fair considering the size of the arsenal, which accommodated only eight of the ten commands on its longest side, and the fact that the colonel's voice was new to the men. The regiment passed in review before the colonel, the officers as a rule saluting correctly. The Fifth at the close of these movements marched by torchlight down Fifth avenue and through Twenty-third street to the colonel's residence, where the proceedings continued in a musical and festive way, the colonel being serenaded at his residence, and in turn feasting the members near by and the officers at his home.

**BATTERY G, FIRST DIVISION.**—This battery, Captain Le Moyne, is ordered to assemble at the armory, corner of Elm and White streets, on Wednesday evening next for parade and inspection, in full uniform and white gloves. All those members who have not turned in their sabres to be exchanged for the short sword are ordered to do so at once, as the short sword will be worn on this occasion. A full attendance is required, and all absent members will be returned for court-martial.

**AN EXHIBITION AND COMPETITION DRILL.**—Company K, Twenty-third, Captain Lyon, gave its customary exhibition and closing drill and medal competition at the State Arsenal, Brooklyn, on Friday evening of last week. No special announcement was given, and no tickets were issued for the occasion, yet the arsenal was very well filled with the friends of the company, members of the regiment, and a number of ladies, all of whom manifested great interest in the proceedings. The company paraded actually fourteen files, but two files were thrown out in certain portions of the drill on account of "recruit proclivities," leaving a frontage of twelve files for the majority of the executions. The company, in full dress uniform, made a handsome appearance; and in the performance of its movements—comprising single and double rank distance on the march; oblique marching in column, on the march and from a halt; forming single and double ranks; front into line, right and left; "tap" and "silent" drill, manual, etc.—showed noticeable proficiency, attentiveness, and steadiness. We were a little surprised, however, to see a company of the Twenty-third introduce such "fancy" unmilitary executions as "tap" and "silent" drill, which belong to "fancy" organizations alone. Many companies introduce this practice at these exhibition drills, but it has no utility, and is especially absurd when the majority of these companies cannot undertake to execute correctly the prescribed movements of the Tactics. In this latter remark, however, we intend no reflection on the company of which we write, which, as we have said, gave re-



markable evidence of proficiency and improvement over its drill of last season, when, if we remember correctly, Upton alone was followed. At the close of the company movements the usual competition for the "Partridge" gold medal took place. This medal was presented by Major Partridge, when commandant of the company, to encourage proficiency in drill among the individual members, the declared best-drilled soldier of the company being allowed to wear this badge of distinction during the year. Much interest was taken in the competition by the members and their friends, and no less than thirteen competitors entered the "military arena." But as all could not possibly possess the one medal, the judges, comprising Colonel Ward, Major Partridge, and Captain Truslow, of Company B, were compelled to gradually weed out defective competitors until the contest was decided in favor of the remaining one, Corporal Bartol, who went through the fearful ordeal of six consecutive weeding. The squad was formed in single rank and exercised by the commandant in the facings, manual, etc., the latter mainly being the criterion of the judgment. In the first trial number one man fell to the rear, then numbers four, eight, and ten in line followed in turn by three, and four of next alignment, and then two and five in the successive formation coming after. The contest finally came down to Sergeant Stone, and the winner, Sergeant Cook, the former holder, falling to the rear in the quartette contest. These public contests may be satisfactory in their results, and may exhibit the qualities of the "best soldier" of the company, but, in our opinion, the method of thus forcing one-half of the company to the rear must be unpleasant, if not humiliating, to any soldier, especially in the presence of an audience. We cannot say we fancy this method of discovering the best drilled man of a command, and we conclude most forcibly that it is far from the true method.

**THE "WEBSTER GUARD" AT HOME.**—The officers, members, and ex-members of Company E, Twelfth regiment, "Webster Light Guard," met at the regimental armory on Monday evening to celebrate the decennial anniversary of its entrance into the Twelfth regiment N. G. The history of the Webster Light Guard was graphically given by its commandant Captain Knox McAfee, from its first conception as an independent organization, the Webster Zouaves (formed by free academy students, and encouraged by Professor Webster, LL. D., of that celebrated institution); its entrance into the Twelfth regiment, taking the letter E, and its subsequent brilliant success as one of the finest drilled companies of the First division, ever foremost in the line of duty whether in the field or at home. Some fine music was given at the conclusion of the captain's remarks by the "Sheet Iron Band" of the Guard, accompanied by the piano, Corporal Bliss and Privates Abel and Waldron taking an active part in the entertainment, and Corporal Bliss's Dutch song "Lauterbach" eliciting an encore.

By invitation of the committee of arrangements an adjournment was made to the small drill-room, and a successful attack made on the two tables loaded with "goodies," which in due time disappeared. After the cloth was removed and the glasses filled, the first regular toast was given: "To our guests, the veteran and honorary members of the Webster Light Guard"; to which Captain Banta responded. Toast second, "The Webster Light Guard—may its future be as brilliant as the past," by Lieutenant Charles E. Sprague. "The day we celebrate," by ex-Captain McAfee. "The poets of the company," by Corporal McMullan. "The active veterans of Company E who are ever faithful to the Webster Light Guard," by D. G. McKelvey. "The ex-officers of the Webster Light Guard who have promoted themselves from the ranks," by ex-Lieutenant Jas. McCuen, who, it is stated, while in the field in 1862 was much exercised at the doings of the Park Artillery, and who obtained a promise from his superior officer that the guns should be spiked by the "one armed man." "The musical genius of the company, may their musical tones be ever Abel (able) to fill us with bliss," by Abel and Bliss. Seven chairs placed side by side represented the seven vacancies in the company caused by death since 1862; these were draped by the flag of our country. Captain McAfee gave a touching eulogy to the memory of the deceased, extolling their courage and discipline, and offered—"To the deceased members of Company E," which was drunk in silence. "Our country one and indivisible." "Our German population" called Mr. French to his feet, as it was thought a Frenchman could tell something about the German after his late experience; but Mr. French answered "that if he told them all he knew that they would know all he could tell." He signs his name *F. French*, we believe. The presence of the champion flag was hailed by a hearty "three" and a "tiger." Social enjoyment was carried on until past midnight, and all departed homeward, wishing and hoping they might be there again at the meeting of the Webster Light Guard in 1882.

**TWENTY-SECOND INFANTRY.**—The fourth promenade concert and last of the season given by this command took place on Tuesday evening at the regimental armory, Fourteenth street. The great hall was tastefully decorated with shields, banners, and festoons. The galleries were draped in red and blue with gold fringe, and several figures were produced in gas jets in different parts of the room. The ornamental pagodas recently used at the homeopathic fair were also conspicuous and useful as places of refuge for those who did not dance. The orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. Rehm, occupied the octagonal music stand in the centre of the hall,

while the promenade band, under Mr. Neyer, took position in the gallery. The concert from 8 to 10 was not so largely attended as it deserved to be, but as the time for dancing drew near the number increased rapidly, and at 11 o'clock there were from 1,200 to 1,500 present, including representatives from the most popular regiments, the First brigade staff, etc., and such an array of female grace and beauty as we have rarely seen at a public ball. A notice on the order of dancing signified that only those in evening dress would be allowed on the floor during the dancing—a good rule, which we were sorry to see infringed upon in several instances. The music was delicious, and the concert and hop highly satisfactory in every respect. We hope the Twenty-second will be encouraged to give more of these entertainments by which they have made themselves justly popular.

**RIFLE PRACTICE.**—The bill "to establish a rifle range and encourage marksmanship among the National Guard," which we printed last week, has passed the Assembly by a vote of 84 to 19, and goes to the Senate with this strong endorsement from the lower House. Its passage has been earnestly urged by arguments from such soldiers as Burnsides, Hooker, Shaler, Sharpe, Woodward, and Jourdan—all of whom appreciate its importance to the public defence, and have striven in its behalf to combat the legislative apathy in regard to all things military. The more intelligent men in both houses understand and are ready to take advantage of the opportunity this bill gives them to arouse a new spirit among our State troops, by an expenditure which, so trifling in itself, becomes the merest bagatelle in view of the important results to be accomplished. Hon. D. W. Judd, of the Assembly, has especially interested himself in the bill, and if it passes, the National Guard will owe him a debt of thanks which they will not forget. We regret that it has not met with as active sympathy in the Senate, where there seems to be fewer men who have been brought practically in contact with military matters, and have learned how important it is to train soldiers to familiarity with the weapons upon which their efficiency depends. Some of the country members have assumed, too, that everybody has opportunity already for training in rifle practice, forgetting apparently that in New York and Brooklyn the houses are too near together and the fields too far away to give much opportunity for shooting—except at the moon. It is beginning to be discovered, however, that this is the case, and that, moreover, the out-of-town militia have a lively interest in a bill which gives them the opportunity to bring their sharp-shooting experience into competition with the less practiced New Yorkers, and carry off the prizes to revive their languid *esprit du corps* by the contemplation of these proofs of their superiority in the most important branch of the art militaire. Apathy and neglect apart, we may hope for the speedy passage of this rifle bill by the Senate as well as by the House. It has been heartily endorsed by all the leading papers here, and has the hearty sympathy of the Adjutant-General, and the special commendation of distinguished soldiers—has little opposition anywhere, and has in it, aside from its intrinsic importance, great elements of popularity. The State expends hundreds of thousands of dollars every year in maintaining a militia force, and it is easy to believe that, as a measure of economy as well as a dictate of prudence, it should expend the \$25,000 this bill calls for in establishing once for all a practice ground which will thereafter maintain itself and prove a constant incentive to that improvement in rifle practice which is neglected nowhere but in this country.

**SECOND DIVISION.**—Major-General Woodward, in orders, announced the death of Colonel George C. Hall, of his staff, in the following terms:

"It is with the deepest regret that the Major-General commanding announces the death, this day, of Colonel George C. Hall, engineer Second division N. G. S. N. Y. Colonel Hall has been a member of the present division staff since its organization, and had endeared himself by his generous and unselfish qualities and earnest friendship to all who knew him. His sudden death occasions a loss which will be long and widely felt. The officers of the division staff will wear the usual badge of mourning for the period of thirty days, as a mark of respect to the memory of Colonel Hall.

**TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.**—The fifth and last promenade concert given by this command at Burnham's Academy, Brooklyn, this season, took place on Saturday evening last, and was even more successful than those preceding it. The serenade, as well as the selection, of the music was excellent, and the company, as usual, was most select. At the conclusion of the "social" the band, accompanied by many of the officers and men, proceeded to the residence of the regimental commandant, Colonel Rodney C. Ward, and paid him the compliment of a serenade. This officer, in turn, heartily welcomed his comrades, and entertained them most hospitably. The brief reunion was thoroughly enjoyed, and illustrated the perfect union of feeling in this promising organization. Lieutenant-Colonel Farnham addressed some complimentary remarks to the host, who in return asked all to "make themselves at home" at his board.

**SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.**—This regiment assembled in full dress, ten commands of ten files strong, at the State Arsenal on Monday evening, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Vose. The regiment presented its characteristic neat and steady appearance, and its closing parade, and the excellent music of the regimental band under Mr. Ebens, drew together a remarkably large assemblage. The military proceedings were opened with a dress parade, followed by a

review, and a few of the simpler battalion movements, the fronts of the regiment, small as they were, marring somewhat the proper execution of these latter in the limited space of room, as also the "passage" in the review. The dress parade was exceedingly creditable, but we would suggest a little more spirit in the commands of the adjutant. We observed that the first sergeants by his orders took up the "double time" in returning to place. There is no necessity for this when the command presents so small a frontage. After the marchings in columns of four the battalion formed for review, Colonel Porter, of the Twenty-second Infantry, acting as reviewing officer, being accompanied by his staff, all in full uniform. No reviewing color was placed at the front of review, nor markers at the change of directions, and the two right companies passed at the "right shoulder." The marching of the companies was good, also distances; the salutes, however, with the exception of the color company (A), poor. The bayonets were unfixed during the entire review, which, to say the least, was unusual. In the battalion movements which followed, in deploying from close column by division left in front, the fourth company failed to comprehend the order of its commandant, marched beyond the point of rest, thereby causing much confusion in coming to the front. The movement preceding, "On the right close column by division," was well performed, and the regiment generally made a good exhibition. A promenade concert followed.

**THE "NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP."**—The Philadelphia *Sunday Republic* has the following regarding this important subject, which now agitates two companies of minimum strength in Boston and Philadelphia. It says:

On the return from New York, on the 20th instant, of the Committee of the State Fencibles from their interview with a committee of the Montgomery Light Guard, a statement to the company was given, which the Montgomerys, in a card just published, denounce as full of misstatements, etc.

The probabilities are that Captain Mullins, of the Montgomery Light Guard, will now waive all the points in dispute, and drill the Montgomerys against the State Fencibles on their own terms, except as far as naming the place of drill is concerned; and a proposition will be made to decide this question by toss, the locality to be some intermediate city between Boston and Philadelphia. Captain Mullins will probably be authorized to take this course at the next meeting of the company.

We were in hopes that the championship business had been finally settled, but, from present indications, the subject is likely to be agitated for some time. In the language of the ring, we can only add, "May the best man win."

It would really be "too bad" if these two companies should not after all meet in "deadly contest," if only to decide the momentous question as to which company is the military champion of the country. Of course, this competition would settle the question and save any further dispute; and therefore we also say with the *Republic*, as well as the country, "Let the best man (or men) win." We await patiently the result of the meeting.

**VARIOUS ITEMS.**—A correspondent in St. Louis writes: "We have in St. Louis some sixteen or seventeen companies of National Guards, and all give promise of becoming organizations of distinction in the militia affairs of the West.".....The close of the drill season was celebrated by Company G, Forty-seventh regiment, Captain William Lamb, last Wednesday evening, by a supper given at the Apollo Rooms, Brooklyn, E. D. After the "rations" had been discussed, and cigars lighted, Captain Lamb gave a gratifying exhibit of the condition of his command, following by introducing Colonel Austen, who responded, as also did Major Bush, Judge-advocate Fisher, of the Eleventh brigade, Quartermaster Kniffen, Lieutenant Hendrickson, and others. It was an exceedingly pleasant affair, and a happy way of promoting good fellowship and sociability, etc., among the members. We understand these suppers are regular features of Company G, inaugurated and successfully carried out by Captain Lamb, the so termed handsome bachelor of the regiment, but who, we learn, at last was caught resting "on arms" and will surrender in a short time to one of the belles of the Burg.....The arrangements for the "Decoration Day" parade of the First and Second divisions have not as yet been completed. It is presumed, however, that the lines will be formed on Madison Avenue, left of Second division extending down to Twenty-third street, left of First division resting on some corner in Madison Avenue, through Forty-second street, and down Fifth Avenue. The route of march will probably be short, at least for some of the organizations.....The Seventh has finally settled to pack for Saratoga, leaving this city July 3, and returning in a week.....The Forty-seventh gave a concert last week at its armory.....The Ninth on Thursday evening laid two of its prominent colonel candidates "on the table," or, in other words, moved further consideration of their names.....The Fifth has established a "recruit class.".....Company E, Seventh, vote for a new commandant next Wednesday evening, vice Kider, promoted lieutenant-colonel.....A conjoint parade of the Seventy-first and Twenty-second regiments is announced for May 15, and a review by Brigadier-General Ward on Tompkins Square. In consequence of the "Decoration Day" parade, we presume it will be "laid over.".....The "First Light Infantry" and "United Train," of Providence, have recently grown from companies to regiments. The new militia law of Rhode Island was defeated some weeks since. Thus it will be observed the militia itself has more real progressive spirit than members of the Legislature, at least a portion thereof.....The "May day" movements of the Connecticut National Guard on Wednesday at New Haven was the finest the State ever exhibited.....A new and flourishing company of militia has been started in Denver City, Colorado. It promises well.....Who is the "coming colonel" of the Fifty-fifth? We anxiously await fuller details.....By the way, a member of Company F committed suicide during the past week. Has Company F come to this?.....An amateur dramatic and musical entertainment, under the auspices of the Light Guard, Company A, Seventy-first regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., was given at the Union League Club Theatre on Thursday evening, May 2, by the Murray Hill Amateur Dramatic Association, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Draper (Brooklyn), vocalists, Prof. V. W. Caulfield, pianist. The laughable farce of "Danielson's Dodges" was presented, followed by the two act drama of "The Maid of Croissey, or Theresa's Vow.".....The "First" had a full dress parade on Thursday evening.





#### THE REMINGTON BREECH-LOADING, SINGLE-SHOT PISTOL, MODEL OF 1871.

THE following description of the new U. S. Army pistol is from the advanced sheets of General Norton's volume:

Among the several recommendations of the United States Board of 1870 was one in favor of the single-shot, breech-loading pistol, of the Remington system, for cavalry. To determine upon a proper holster weapon was a distinct portion of the order directing the organization and action of the Board. Its decision is embodied in the subjoined extract from the report, as published in *Ordinance Memoranda* No. 11:

"Of the breech-loading pistols submitted, the Board have selected the following six in the order of relative merit:

"First.—The Remington single-barrelled pistol, with guard, centre fire.

"Second.—The Smith-Wesson revolver.

"Third.—The Remington revolver, No. 2.

"Fourth.—The Remington revolver, No. 5.

"Fifth.—The Remington revolver, No. 3.

"Sixth.—The Remington revolver, No. 4.

"The Remington is the only single-barrelled pistol submitted. It is an excellent weapon, but should be so modified as to load at half-cock. The main spring of the Remington should be strengthened so as to increase the certainty of fire; also the plunger should be made to strike more accurately the centre of the base of the cartridge. Pistols and revolvers should have the 'saw-handle' so shaped that, in bringing the weapon from the holster to an aim, it will not be necessary to change the first grasp or bend of the wrist."

By a reference to the antecedent record of this system, it will be seen that a complement of single-shot pistols was, in 1867, furnished to the United States Navy. In his communication to the Secretary of War, accompanying the report of the Board, General Dyer recommended that 1,000 arms of this type be purchased for trial. This number was in due time secured, and since the original order, 5,000 pistols of the same model have likewise been ordered for, and will soon be issued to, the Army.

The above cut is illustrative of the size, entire action and mechanical details of the

#### REMINGTON BREECH-LOADING, SINGLE-SHOT PISTOL, MODEL OF 1871.

This new holster arm in construction conforms to the suggestions of the St. Louis Commission, in so far as that body recommended a change of handle and a modification of the firing-pin. The 'saw-handle,' as applied to the new model, renders it an almost perfect weapon in simple ease of manual, as it "brings up" in the most natural manner possible. A second improvement is the introduction of a *positive firing-pin retractor*, in lieu of the spring heretofore filling that office, by which the clogging or fastening of the firing-pin by rust or dirt is rendered an impossibility.

The length of barrel of the improved model,—eight inches,—and the admirably adapted degree of rifling twist, secure not only almost a carbine's range, but remarkable precision for this pistol. The exceeding ease with which it is loaded, and its natural grasp, make it also capable in practical hands of a rapidity of consecutive discharge, per minute, greater than that of any revolving or repeating arm. In addition to such shooting qualities and facility of manual, possessing the calibre of .50, it is, beyond a doubt, the most formidable weapon known to any service or as yet produced.

The weight of the model of 1871 is but slightly over two pounds.

The parts of the improved system are fully shown in cuts 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Cut No. 1 represents the pistol with breech closed and ready for discharge. Cut No. 2 is a sectional view of the system open and in a position to receive the cartridge.

AA. Receiver, consisting of frame and guard-strap, connected by three screws.

BB. Breech-block.

C. Hammer.

D. Cartridge retractor.

EE. Hammer and breech-block pins.

aa. Firing-pin.

b. Firing-pin retractor.

c. Sear.

d. Trigger.

e. Main-spring.

f. Sear and breech-block spring.

The frame and guard-strap are made of wrought iron, case hardened. The barrel and lock work are of steel.

The breech-block, Fig. 3, is formed with an annular groove for the reception of the cartridge retractor, D, which serves the double purpose of withdrawing the

empty cases from the chamber and operating the firing-pin retractor, b, to effect a positive withdrawal of the firing-pin. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section through the breech-block, showing the engagement of the firing-pin and the firing-pin retractor. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 show these several parts in detail. Shoulders k and l are formed on the breech and hammer, which prevent the closing of the breech if the trigger is accidentally pulled while the breech is open.

The sear, c, and trigger, d, are pivoted to the guard-strap. The sear-spring, f, rests in a slot in the trigger, and is held in place by the trigger-pin. One end of the sear-spring rests upon the sear, and the other against the breech-block, serving to keep it closed.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR USE.

Bring the hammer to full cock, open the breech by pressing back the thumb-piece. The backward movement of the breech carries with it the cartridge retractor and withdraws the empty cartridge case from the chamber. After the cartridge retractor has moved back a certain distance the shoulder, h, comes against the frame and arrests its movement, while the backward movement of the breech is continued to permit the insertion of a cartridge. The firing-pin retractor, b, is thus caused to roll over and receive a slight angular movement from the tooth, i, on the cartridge retractor, which angular movement serves to retract the firing-pin as shown in Fig. 4. A cartridge being then placed in the chamber and the breech closed, the arm is ready to fire.

Care should be taken to keep the chamber clean and free from sand or dirt, which would cause the cartridges to extract with difficulty. The hammer should be carried at half-cock.

As this new holster arm is already fast gaining precedence "on the plains," and wherever buffalo or other large game is to be encountered in the saddle, the following directions for dismounting and assembling the parts of the system will be of general use:

TO REMOVE THE BREECH-PIECE AND HAMMER.—Loosen the button-screw until the button can be removed from the heads of the breech and hammer-pins; cock the hammer, push out the breech-pin, take out the breech-piece, let down the hammer as far as it will go (which leaves the main-spring resting upon a stationary pin, and obviates the necessity of using a main-spring vise in readjusting the parts); remove the hammer-pin, and take out the hammer.

After the breech is removed from the frame, the cartridge retractor may be removed, and the firing-pin and firing-pin retractor taken out. As the last mentioned parts are held in place by the cartridge retractor, care should be taken not to lose them out when that is removed.

TO REPLACE THE HAMMER AND BREECH-PIECE.—Lay the arm down on the right side; press upon the trigger, at the same time replacing the hammer with the thumb-piece forward and downward, until the hole in the hammer and receiver correspond; replace the hammer-pin, cock the hammer, replace the breech-piece, insert breech-pin in receiver, and by pressing on the pin, at the same time pressing down the breech-piece, and working it back and forth slightly, the pin will enter. Adjust the button, and tighten the button-screw.

TO TAKE THE ENTIRE ARM APART.—Take out the breech and hammer, as above described. Take out the tang-screw, and remove the butt-stock. To detach the guard-strap, take out the two side-screws which press through the guard-strap, always removing the rear screw first. Unscrew the barrel from the receiver.



OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,  
FIRST QUARTERMASTER'S DISTRICT, D. E.,  
CORNER HOUSTON AND GREENE STS.,  
NEW YORK, April 11, 1872.

**SEALED PROPOSALS**, in duplicate, with a copy of this advertisement attached to each, are invited and will be received at this office until 12 M., June 1, 1872, for supplying this Department with the following-named quantities of Forage and Straw, more or less, viz.:

Fort Columbus, New York Harbor—2,000 pounds Corn, 23,185 pounds Oats, 30,660 pounds Hay, and 110,000 pounds Straw.

Fort Wood, New York Harbor—4,380 pounds Oats, 5,110 pounds Hay, and 21,648 pounds Straw.

Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor—10,000 pounds Corn, 880,000 pounds Oats, 456,000 pounds Hay, 156,000 pounds Straw, and 11,000 pounds Bran.

Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor—41,610 Oats, 51,100 pounds Hay, and 21,216 pounds Straw.

David's Island, New York Harbor—63,600 pounds Oats, 48,000 pounds Hay, and 28,000 pounds Straw.

Fort Adams, Newport, R. I.—37,050 pounds Corn, 400,000 pounds Oats, 500,780 pounds Hay, and 168,433 pounds Straw.

Fort Trumbull, New London, Conn.—24,280 pounds Oats, 30,660 pounds Hay, and 16,728 pounds Straw.

Fort Hale, New Haven, Conn.—144 pounds Straw.

Plattsburg Barracks, Plattsburg, N. Y.—24,176 pounds Oats, 26,104 pounds Hay, and 20,410 pounds Straw.

Willet's Point, New York Harbor—32,850 pounds Corn, 146,730 pounds Oats, 209,510 pounds Hay, and 87,936 pounds Straw.

The Corn and Oats must be entirely free from dust or other impurities, and put up in good, substantial sacks, securely sewed to prevent wastage; and the Hay and Straw in bales, free from surplus wood or other foreign matter.

These supplies must be delivered on the wharves of the respective posts at such times and in such quantities as may be required by the Quartermaster's Department, and payment will be made according to the weights, as certified to by the Post Quartermasters at the places of delivery.

Bidders must state separately the prices at which they will deliver the Corn, Oats, Hay, Oat Straw, Rye Straw, and Bran herein called for, at each of the places. The prices of the Corn, Oats, and Bran must include the necessary sacks.

Each bid must be accompanied by a guarantee, signed by two responsible persons, that in case the bid shall be accepted and a contract entered into, they will become sureties in a sum equal to one-fourth of the amount of the contract for the faithful performance of the same.

No bid will be entered that is not made in accordance with this advertisement, and bidders have the privilege of being present at the opening of the bids.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids regarded as disadvantageous to the Department, or to accept such portion of any bid, not less than for one post that may be deemed of advantage to the public interest.

Bids may be made and will be entertained for delivering the Forage and Straw herein called for at any one or more of the posts.

Proposals must be indorsed, "Proposals for Forage and Straw," and addressed to the undersigned, of whom any other information can be obtained if desired.

R. N. BATCHELDER,  
Major and Quartermaster, C. Q. M.

OFFICE CHIEF QUARTERMASTER, THIRD  
DISTRICT, D. E., No. 1, 137 GERRARD ST.,  
PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 26, 1872.

**SEALED PROPOSALS**, in triplicate, with a copy of this advertisement attached to each, will be received at this office until 12 M. on Tuesday, May 28, 1872, for delivery to the Quartermaster's Department of this District at the places named below, the following amounts of Forage and Straw:

Corn. Oats. Hay. Straw.  
lbs. lbs. lbs. lbs.

Fort Monroe, Va.....16,242 116,253 163,520 66,000

Fort Foote, Md.....4,040 10,000 20,160 13,599

Ft. Washington, Md.....15,000 27,000 47,000 10,000

Fort McHenry, Md.....393,910 464,500 108,800

Baltimore, Md.....45,800 51,100 12,000

35,282 590,963 746,340 210,392

All grain to be of the best quality, free from dust, dirt, or other impurities. Oats 32 pounds to the bushel. Corn 56 pounds to the bushel. Hay of the best quality timothy. Straw to be of rye of the best quality. The corn and oats to be sacked.

The hay and straw to be baled. The price bid to include the cost of baling and sacking. All to be inspected prior to reception by the United States. Sealed proposals will also be received at the same time and place for delivery at the places named below of the following amounts of wood and coal, viz.:

Wood. Coal. Anth. Coal. Bit.  
cords. tons, 2240 lbs. tons, 2240 lbs.

Fort Monroe, Va. 359 .....

Fort Foote, Md.. 50 .....

Fort Washington, Md..... 25 .....

Ft. McHenry, Md 600 .....

Baltimore, Md... 238 .....

Nat'l Cemetery, Annapolis, Md. 12 .....

Nat'l Cemetery, Culpeper, Va. 4 .....

Nat'l Cemetery, Grafton, W. V. .... 9 .....

Nat'l Cemetery, Winchester, Va. 6 .....

1294 .....

23 .....

9 .....

The wood to be merchantable hard wood. The Anthracite Coal to be of the best White Ash, and free from bone, dust, and other impurities; all to be inspected prior to reception by the United States. The Fuel, Forage, and Straw are to be delivered at the wharves of the following-named stations, at such times and in such quantities as the Acting Assistant Quartermasters thereat may direct, viz.: Fort Monroe, Va.; Fort Foote, Md.; Fort Washington, Md.; and Fort McHenry, Md.

At Baltimore, Md., at such times and places and in such quantities as the Acting Assistant Quartermaster thereat may direct.

The wood and coal for the National Cemeteries to be delivered at such times and in such quantities as the Superintendents at each of the Cemeteries may respectively desire.

Form of bid will be furnished on application to this office, as well as any additional information required by those desiring to bid.

HENRY C. HODGES,  
Major and Quartermaster U. S. Army, Chief Quartermaster Third District, Department of the East.

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